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THURSDAY JUNE 22, 2017

### **DUE TO CPA RESOLUTION**

# HANMI sees \$600K loss

By BEA CABRERA bea\_cabrera@saipantribune.com

he decision by the Commonwealth Ports Authority to temporarily suspend the entry of new international flights to the CNMI could result in a loss of \$600,000 for the Commonwealth, forcing the Hotel Association of the Marianas

Islands yesterday to withdraw its support of the CPA resolution.

The \$600,00 represents potential income from hotel rooms and meals reserved by Beijing Air customers.

HANMI chair Gloria Cavanagh said the association's initial reaction upon learning of the CPA decision was that it was a "good thing." The CPA board had passed the resolution to suspend the entry of new flights at the request of the Torres administration. The move was ostensibly to give the CNMI government breathing room to as-



sess the current state of the CNMI's infrastructure and its capacity to accommodate the rapid increase in visitor arrival.

"Our support was premised with the understanding that existing and confirmed flights were not



### Beijing Air seeks to stop flight suspension

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE REPORTER

The company that operates Beijing Airlines wants the federal court to stop the Commonwealth Ports Authority

### » Carrier already sold over 2K tickets for Saipan flights, reserved hotel rooms for over \$600K

Saipan International Airport. Beijing Capital Beijing Co. the Saipan airport based upon Ltd. is suing CPA and its ex- a resolution by the CPA board. from preventing it from land- ecutive director, Christopher ing at the Francisco C. Ada- S. Tenorio, from preventing

the company from accessing

### Ogumoro appeals his conviction in Buckingham case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

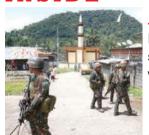
Although he has been convicted and has already served a year in prison, former deputy police chief Ambrosio T. Ogushielding then-attorney general Edward Buckingham from being served with penal summons in 2012.

Ogumoro, through counsel Daniel T. Guidotti, asked the CNMI Supreme Court Beijing Air, through coun- | moro still wants the high court to vacate his convictions for See BEIJING on Page 4 | to reverse his convictions in conspiracy to commit theft of

services, theft of services, and three counts of misconduct in public office.

Guidotti asserted that a police officer has no duty to assist with serving an invalid penal summons.

Guidotti said that then-Su-See OGUMORO on Page 4



### **ASIA**

Muslim rebels raid a southern Philippine village.

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### WORLD

Saudi Arabia's King Salman has appointed Mohammed bin Salman as crown prince.

**PAGE 18** 



LIFE & STYLE Daniel Day-Lewis is retiring from acting.

**PAGE 20** 



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2 THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

### Local

### COTA team obtains safety, passenger assistance training

The operations team for the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority recently participated in professional development training on passenger assistance and sensitivity training, successfully achieving a full receipt of certifications by the Community Transportation Association of America.

Ginger Porter, M.Ed., certified passenger service and safety trainer of the Community Transportation Association of America, said that COTA operators and staff are building their knowledge of leading edge service for transit customers.

"Customers of COTA should experience safe and responsive transit services from this team of new and seasoned operators, all of whom tested to proficiency for national



The Commonwealth Office on Transportation Authority operations team poses with Community Transportation Association of America trainer Ginger Porter, far right, and Special Assistant for Public Transportation Alfreida Camacho, second from right, attaining full certification for passenger assistance and safety sensitive training.

certification of passenger assistance skills. Their questions during training and the interest expressed in service improvement is impressive. I look forward to seeing the growth and next chapter of the COTA team," she said.

According to Special Assis-

tant for Public Transportation Alfreida Camacho, this is Porter's second time conducting COTA's certification training.

"Our CCTA trainer is based out of Guam and is a current board member for the Guam Regional Transit Authority. In order for COTA to continue delivering safe and courteous transit services for our community, the proper training opportunities should be afforded to the team accordingly," Camacho said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres noted that the need for this particular type of training echoes the fact that passenger transportation is a service industry.

"The most important asset in any transit agency or provider are the transit operators. I am very pleased that, as our transportation continues to progress, our team is equipped with the skills and current knowledge to safely and efficiently serve our community. Passenger safety and overall care is needed on an ongoing basis as we better establish our transit system," Torres added.

Camacho said that by providing these training opportunities for the COTA team, skills and knowledge are enhanced for each team member which will, in turn, benefit the CNMI community as a whole.

"This yearly certification is a priority for COTA to ensure that we carry out a safe public transit system. One of my goals here at COTA is to do the very best I can to professionally develop this young and striving team. Each one of us that make up the COTA team play a vital role to ensure that we provide the best quality transportation service to our community," Camacho said.

For more information on COTA, log on to http://cnmicota.wixsite.com/cota. (PR)



Ty Pauling, program director for Culinary Arts, explains the work that they have done in the development of the course and describes the dish that the students prepared.

BEA CABRERA

### NMTI Culinary Arts students serve dinner

By BEA CABRERA

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Culinary Arts students of the Northern Marianas Trade Institute showed off their newly acquired skills by serving dinner to government officials and dignitaries at NMTI last Tuesday.

Tuesday evening's affair, attended by dignitaries led by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, showed off the students' plating and presentation skills.

Ty Pauling, program director for Culinary Arts at NMTI and Hyatt Regency Saipan's F&B director, said the NMTI curriculum was developed in accordance with the core skills needed by businesses and restaurants on Saipan.

He said that Tuesday night's presentation was preceded by a class lecture. Students had their usual lecture and prepared the food that was dis-

cussed in the lecture.

"Tonight, we are going to prepare chicken chasseur with a side of rice pilaf and steamed broccoli. This is the practical part of this particular lecture," Pauling added.

The dinner was intended to test the skills of the students and showcase their learning and development.

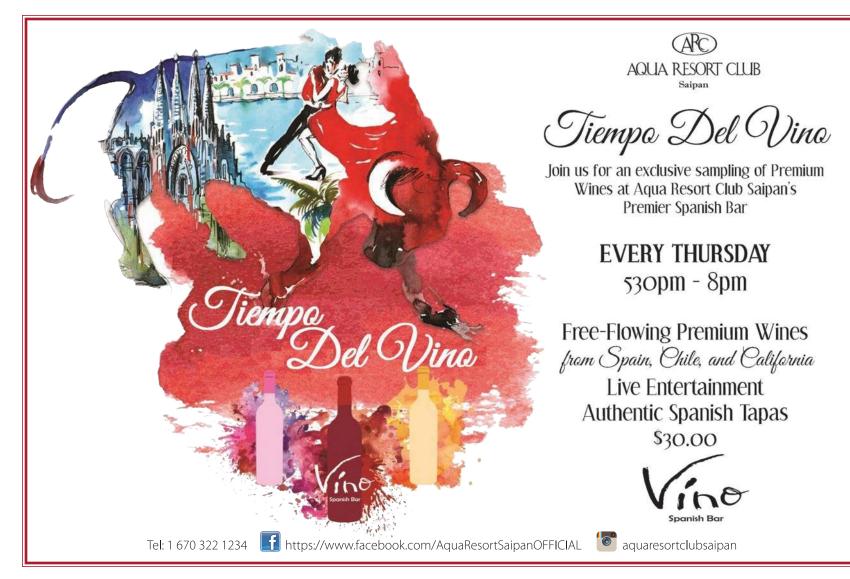
**NMTI** CEO Agnes McPhetres said it is the school's vision to also establish a technical school on Tinian and Rota. "We have been communicating to the mayors as to what would be the best approach. If we get additional funding, we would be very happy to go to Tinian and Rota or bring some of those students over here to Saipan because we cannot replicate the kitchen here."

The students who finish the Culinary Arts course will be placed in different hotels on the island, to accumulate 240 hours of internship.

"This is a great opportunity for young people and for the business community, having more of our product in their businesses," said McPhetres.

Torres was impressed with the night's performance. "The dinner experience was awesome. I've always supported NMTI and I am very proud of all the students. The meal that was prepared was impressive. I look forward having them serve the community. Congratulations to all of them," Torres said.

Other guests were pleased with the overall taste, plating, presentation, aroma, and texture of the dishes that were prepared by the students.



"There are some private

owners that still have to be

compensated. DPW could start

initial work [on the road] once

[the private property owners

are properly compensated],"

he said, adding that the con-

struction may cost about \$10

million to \$12 million solely

To enable them to issue

right of way to DPW, private

property owners must first be

compensated by the Depart-

plaints, but there is no other

way to do construction," he

said. "I ask the public for

"We have a lot of com-

ment of Public Lands.

for construction.

### DPW: Isa Drive completion date is April 2018

By ERWIN ENCINARES

Work on Isa Drive, the road that goes up Capital Hill, is now expected to be completed in April 2018, not August this year as originally projected.

According to Anthony Camacho, technical services director of the Department of Utilities Corp.

owners.

### Apatang: SHEFA will be OK

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

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Despite a possible loss of funding, Saipan Mayor David Apatang is certain the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program will do just fine.

Last Tuesday, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation thumbed down a bill that would give poker parlors two more years to relocate from villages to zones approved by the Saipan Zoning board. SHEFA is funded mainly by license fees paid by poker machine operators. That allows SHEFA to grant scholarships from the poker machine tax.

The concern was that there are many poker game rooms that are located in non-conforming game room areas.

Because House Local Bill 20-12 was not passed, this gives non-conforming game rooms until October this year to relocate to conforming areas. There's no assurance that the remaining non-conforming poker shops can make the deadline to relocate.

According to Apatang, he respects the delegation's decision not to pass the extension.

"It's the Legislature's prerogative. I have no problem with that," said Apatang.

Apatang's only request was for the Legislature to come up with a plan to protect students who depend on SHEFA scholarship money. "...as long as they [delegation] come up

### Demapan: '240 days later, we will have a shortage'

By ERWIN ENCINARES

Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) is not satisfied with the 240-day grace period provided by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for CW-1 workers with expiring statuses.

Demapan said Tuesday that the 240-day extension is merely an extension granted until a decision is released by USCIS.

"It does not solve the issues we are having with the CW workers because 240 days later, we will have a shortage," he said.

According to Demapan, the grace period does not solve the yearly CW cap nightmare and it "does not solve our projections moving forward."

Demapan referred to the

Public Works, the construction of Isa Drive has been extended due to the additional utilities that have to be laid in the ground by the Commonwealth

Speaking during yesterday's budget hearing, Camacho said the road also has additional issues due to private property

with some sort of assurance that SHEFA will continue to get at least \$3 million a year,"

said Apatang. According to Apatang, he is not worried at all. He believes the delegation will come up with a solution and that the legislation is also concerned about the students who will be affected by the decision.

"They [legislation] are very supportive of the students, they are just not supportive of the extension of poker rooms...this has been in the works for four years now," he said.

According to him, a bill is already in the works that will ensure that the SHEFA program will receive about \$2 million.

Apatang told Saipan Tribune that during the delegation session, Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" Attao (Ind-Saipan) offered a temporary solution to SHEFA's dilemma, giving the program about \$2 million until a longterm solution is found.

Apatang is also certain that SHEFA will be OK for the next year or two. The office currently has a few million saved and will still be able to grant scholarships until a solution is found.

There are currently over 25 poker game rooms in nonconforming areas and each machine is taxed \$12,000. If these game rooms are not able to relocate by October, about 309 poker machines will no longer be taxed, resulting in cuts to the funds that SHEFA annually receives.

grace period as a "little bit of a reprieve for businesses [and workers].

"... at the end of the day, it still means someone has got to go home and businesses have to find another worker, which is fine—if we have sufficient

He has talked with Delegate Amata C. Radewagen (R-AS) of American Samoa, who he said has expressed her willingness to help out. According to Demapan, Radewagen has been making tremendous strides in Congress.

"I hope we can harness that energy from a lot of the things that she has achieved for American Samoa. I look forward to her assisting the territories and the CNMI in particular," said Demapan.

their patience and hopefully this project would be done sooner than later."

DPW proposed to the House Committee on Ways and Means yesterday that a local budget of \$4 million is sufficient for DPW to fulfill its duties in fiscal year 2018. DPW was allocated \$3.72 million in fiscal year 2017.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres proposes a budget of \$3.75 million for DPW in fiscal year 2018.

### **Street lights**

DPW was also questioned by the committee on the streetlights along the main highways. In the \$4 million that DPW is proposing, Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) noticed that DPW did not allocate funding to pay for streetlights.

"That is where our line of questions were leading," said Demapan. "We are very concerned there is no proposed funding for streetlights," adding that his committee would like to "rectify the issue by providing proper appropriations for the payment of the streetlights."

Demapan said the only thing hindering the committee from doing so is the lack of data. He added that in order to allocate funding, "we need to know how much is projected for these costs."

"At this point in time, DPW is the agency in charge of paying for the streetlights. Until otherwise provided by law or regulation, we will continue to proceed in that manner."

A Senate bill was introduced by Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan) in the past to place the responsibility of paying for streetlight maintenance on CUC. However, CUC strongly disagreed with this, saying that the additional financial burden would have to come from somewhere—basically implying that they would have to raise rates to finance the additional costs. Since then, the bill has been withdrawn.



payment. Financed at 5.9% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$323.93 or \$149 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price is \$19,435.80.

### **BEIJING**

From Page 1

sel Daniel T. Guidotti, is suing Tenorio and CPA for alleged violation of the supremacy clause, and for alleged violations of procedural due process and equal protection against Tenorio.

Beijing Air asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue an injunction that would stop CPA and Tenorio from enforcing CPA board resolution 2017-03—the 60-day suspension of new international flights into the CNMI.

Beijing Air asked the court to declare the resolution void and unenforceable as it is preempted by federal law and deprives Beijing Air of due process and of equal protection of the laws.

Beijing Air is asking for court costs.

U.S. District of Guam Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood will handle the case. U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona recused herself yesterday due to conflict.

Manglona's brother, Thomas P. Villagomez, is a CPA board vice chairman.

Guidotti said that, on June 14, 2017, the CPA board adopted a resolution in which

CPA declared that it was banning "all new international airline service" for 60 days.

Although the U.S. Department of Transportation has yet to approve the resolution, Guidotti said that Tenorio and CPA have nevertheless enforced the resolution against Beijing Air.

Guidotti said that last June 16, CPA, through Tenorio, informed Beijing Air that it would not sign an airline use agreement with Beijing Air after the 60-day ban is lifted.

Since CPA regulations require Beijing Air to enter into an airline use agreement with CPA before Beijing Air can use the airport, its refusal to sign an airline use agreement excludes Beijing Air from the airport, Guidotti said.

He said that federal law preempts CPA's attempt to deny Beijing Air access to the airport. He cited 49 U.S.C. Section 41713(b), which provides that "no state, or any political subdivision of a state (including the Commonwealth) can enact or enforce a law, regulation, or anything similar to a law or regulation that affects the price, route, or service of an air carrier."

Guidotti asserted that Tenorio's attempts to force

ments even before the flight

cancellation. This will ad-

versely affect HANMI mem-

bers. Let's say, for discussion,

290 to 300 persons per flight

and there are two of them [two

flights], so [with an] average

of two persons per room, that

is 300 rooms. ...If they stay

for four days, we are talking

about 1,050 room nights per

"I am totally against this

suspension was issued.

the CPA board's resolution violates both the Supremacy Clause and the 14th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

He pointed out that US-DOT granted Beijing Air's application to expand its international flight service to Saipan last Jan. 17 and issued it a foreign air carrier permit.

Guidotti said that permit authorizes Beijing Air to fly between Hangzhou, China, and Saipan.

From late 2016 through 2017, Beijing Air began negotiating with CPA about arrival times for flights from Hangzhou to Saipan. Last May 3, after discussion and consultation with Customs and Border Protection, CPA gave Beijing Air two weekly flight times. In that May 3 letter, CPA reportedly authorized Beijing Air to begin bringing flights to Saipan on June 22, 2017.

During the time that Beijing Air and CPA were negotiating Beijing Air's flight schedule, Beijing Air and CPA discussed entering into an airline use agreement.

After May 3, Beijing Air informed CPA that it would begin flights to Saipan starting June 29, 2017.

Upon receiving the May

3 letter from CPA, Beijing Air began promoting its new Hangzhou-China route and began selling tickets in China.

Guidotti said Beijing Air sold more than 2,000 tickets for its Saipan flights, including all flights in July. The majority of these tickets have been prepaid.

Beijing Air reserved hotel rooms for these 2,000 travelers via cash deposits made to local resorts, amounting to more than \$600,000.

Last June 6, Guidotti said, Beijing Air received a cryptic email from CPA executive deputy director Edward Mendiola, in which Mendiola informed Beijing Air that CPA was going to implement a temporary ban on "all new airline flights" arriving at the airport and that the ban would be effective June 14, 2017.

Guidotti said Mendiola did not explain why CPA was imposing the 60-day ban.

On June 9, 2017, CPA supplied Beijing Air with a letter, signed by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, in which Torres asked CPA for "a formal resolution from the CPA board...to suspend any new airline flights into the CNMI for the next 60 days (or until further notice)."

Torres' letter does not explain why he was requesting CPA to issue a 60-day bar on new airline flights.

Last June 13, Beijing Air sought clarification from Tenorio regarding the implementation of the 60-day ban.

On June 14, Guidotti said, the CPA board met at a special meeting and adopted a resolution that CPA was banning all "all new international airline service" for a period of 60 days.

The resolution also directed CPA management to seek approval of the 60-day flight ban from the USDOT.

Guidotti said that consistent with the CPA resolution, CPA sent a letter to USDOT requesting the latter's "concurrence" in the 60-day ban on new international flight service.

In CPA's response letter on June 16 to Beijing Air's June 13 letter, Tenorio stated that suspension of new airline service into the CNMI included Beijing Air.

Guidotti said Tenorio further stated that CPA would not execute an airline use agreement with Beijing Air or permit Beijing Air access to the airport until the 60-day ban was lifted.

Guidotti said CPA's refusal to enter into an airline use

agreement with Beijing Air functionally excludes Beijing Air from the airport.

Guidotti said CPA has never communicated to Beijing Air the reason for the 60-day new airline ban.

The lawyer said CPA has, to date, failed to provide Beijing Air with a hearing or other procedural process regarding the suspension of new international flights to Saipan, including Beijing Air's scheduled June 29 flights.

Guidotti said CPA has acknowledged that Beijing Air is the only carrier affected by the CPA's 60-day new flight ban.

Guidotti said CPA has permitted other air international air carriers to increase the number of flights to and from Saipan.

The lawyer said if the court does not grant a TRO or a preliminary injunction against Tenorio and CPA, Beijing Air will suffer irreparable injuries, including substantial losses of reputation and goodwill in China because the company will have to refund 2,000 tickets, and on Saipan, because the company will have to seek refunds of the more than \$600,000 in room deposits that the company has

### **HANMI**

From Page 1

affected," said Cavanagh.

It now appears that incoming, scheduled Beijing Airlines flights will be affected by the flight suspension.

"Now, it is only eight days before the maiden flight [of Beijing Air] was supposed to take off and it was cancelled. With the flights cancelled, so were the hotel reservations," Cavanagh said.

She pointed out that Bei-

jing Air has already been approved to fly to the Commonwealth by both by the federal and local govern
week when the flights are full. These reservations have already been made."

"Now there is a major can-

"Now there is a major cancellation because there is no plane," Cavanagh said. Beijing Air acquired its per-

Beijing Air acquired its permit application from the U.S. Department of Transportation on Jan. 17, 2017, authorizing it to fly between Hangzhou, China, and Saipan.

Last May 3, 2017, Beijing Air was granted by CPA to have two weekly flights into Saipan on hours set by the CPA and that would commence flights starting June 29, 2017. However last June 6, 2017, Beijing Air received word from the CPA that it would temporarily ban all new international flights effective June 14, 2017.

Cavanagh worries about the effects of decisions that have been made. "It's a domino effect and if you think that it's so easy to get a plane and have them agree to certain hours required by the CPA and turn around and cancel it, how much money will that cost?"

"Right now, MVA increased

its arrivals by 44 percent. HANMI occupancy is at 87 to 88 percent. With projections going on for the year, especially with this new flight, we are going to see a huge hit in some hotels. There are three hotels that these flights are booking and, with three hotels at 1,050 room nights, it's going to hit one hotel extremely hard. This is not acceptable."

Beijing Air has already sought a restraining order against CPA with the U.S. District Court, eight days before its supposed maiden flight to Saipan.

already paid.

"The only people that could actually stop this [flight suspension] would be the federal government: US-DOT and [the Federal Aviation Administration]. We hope that [judge] Francis Tydingco-Gatewood would act quickly on this. We are eight days from the scheduled flight and reservations are already finalized. The reputation of Saipan and one of HANMI's members will be adversely affected and that's not right," Cavanagh said.

### **OGUMORO**

From Page 1

perior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman erred when he concluded otherwise and convicted Ogumoro of misconduct in public office based on his failure to assist then-Office of the Public Auditor investigator Juanette David-Atalig with serving the penal summons on Buckingham at the Saipan airport.

Ogumoro is the only defendant in the case who actually served prison time.

The other defendants were former governor Benigno R. Fitial, Buckingham, former Commonwealth Ports Authority police chief Jordan Kosam, CPA police captain John T. Rebuenog, and Fitial's former personal driver and bodyguard, Jermaine Jo-

seph W. Nekaifes.

In January 2015, a Superior Court jury found Ogumoro guilty of conspiracy to commit theft of services.

Wiseman found Ogumoro guilty of five misconduct in public office charges, one count of obstructing justice: interference with a law enforcement officer or witness, and one count of criminal coercion.

In March 2016, Wiseman imposed a one-year prison term on Ogumoro.

He began serving his sentence on April 13, 2016. He was released on April 12,

Fitial resigned as governor on Feb. 20, 2013, days after the House of Representatives impeached him on charges of corruption, felony, and neglect of duty.

Fitial and Kosam pleaded

guilty, while Buckingham was convicted during a bench trial. Fitial, Kosam, and Buckingham did not serve prison terms. The charges against Rebuenog and Nekaifes were dismissed.

In Ogumoro's appeal, Guidotti said the core of this appeal is whether the jury that decided Ogumoro's felony conspiracy to commit theft of services and theft of services charges should have received a lesser included offense charge.

Guidotti said this lesser included instruction would have given the jury an opportunity to convict Ogumoro of misdemeanor theft offenses.

Guidotti said although the standard of review is probably plain error given that law regarding lesser included instructions changed during this appeal, Ogumoro meets even the difficult plain error standard.

The lawyer said the key is that David-Atalig, who supplied the bulk of the testimony regarding Ogumoro's theft convictions, provided incomplete, speculative, and ambiguous testimony.

"As a result, the jury was left with up to 13 different ways that it could have computed the dollar value of the theft of service offenses," he pointed out.

Guidotti noted that the lowest of these computations is \$84.40, below the felony theft threshold.

"It follows that a reasonable jury could have convicted Ogumoro of misdemeanor theft of service," the lawyer said, stressing that his client meets the plain error standard.

Guidotti said if the high

court remains unconvinced that it should vacate Ogumoro's felony theft convictions based on the change to lesser included law, the high court should still vacate Ogumoro's convictions because the government introduced insufficient evidence to convict him of felony theft.

"Again, David-Atalig, the only witness who testified regarding the dollar value of the theft offenses, provided incomplete, speculative, and ambiguous testimony regarding the dollar value of the theft offenses," he said.

Guidotti also asserted that Wiseman convicted Ogumoro of misconduct in public office based on Ogumoro's recall of DPS officers who were assisting David-Atalig with serving a penal summons on Buckingham.

Guidotti said that Wise-

man's error, a plain error, arises from his misconstruction of a Commonwealth statute that makes service of a penal summons obligatory on any police officer

Guidotti said Wiseman construed the statute so as to remove the requirement that a penal summons be "be issued in accordance with law and the rules of procedure prescribed in accordance with law."

He said Wiseman convicted Ogumoro of misconduct in public office based on violation of that statute, despite its acknowledgment that the penal summons that David-Atalig attempted to serve on Buckingham was invalid because it lacked a judge's signature.

"In so doing, the trial court ignored the law and committed plain error," Guidotti pointed out.

### AK Saipan offers car as tourney's hole-in-one prize

Atkins Kroll Saipan and Traders Insurance Co. have stepped forward to offer holein-one prizes for this Saturday's HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament.

AK Saipan offers a 2017 Toyota Corolla iM for a lucky hole-in-one winner.

"Atkins Kroll (Saipan), Inc.—better known as Toyota—is proud to be a sponsor of the 16th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament, being held on Saturday at Laolao Bay's west course," said Atkins Kroll Saipan general manager Doug Brennan. "Tourism is such a vital part of our economy. The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Island plays an extremely important role in employing and educating our residents on the many facets of tourism, as well as ensuring our visitors enjoy their stays

### 3 join Tribune's editorial team

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

The Saipan Tribune editorial team recently welcomed three new members: Erwin Encinares. Bea Cabrera, and Kimberly Bautista.

Encinares has been a part of the Saipan Tribune team since August 2016. Encinares was born in the Commonwealth and has a degree in hotel and restaurant management.

Encinares has covered community related beats and is currently covering government beats like the Executive Branch, Governor's Office, legislature, federal affairs, and casino commissions. Encinares can be reached at erwin encinares@saipantribune.com or at 235-8747/6397/2769 Ext. 136.

Bea Cabrera, who has a communications degree, is the newest member of the Saipan *Tribune* team and just migrated to the Commonwealth five month ago. Cabrera covers the Marianas Visitors Authority, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Board of Education, the Public School System, and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., and all businesses. Cabrera can be reached at bea cabrera@saipantribune.com or at 235-8747/6397/2769 Ext. 130.

Kimberly Bautista, the youngest of the editorial staff, is the reporter assigned to community events, the Saipan Mayor's Office, environmental agencies, the foreign consulates, and the Joeten Kiyu Public Library. Bautista can be reached at kimberly\_bautista@ saipantribune.com or at 235-8747/6397/2769 Ext. 140.

and want to return again and again to our beautiful island paradise. AK Saipan would also like to thank all of the golfers participating in the

tournament and wish them the tournament. the very best of luck."

Traders Insurance Co. is offering \$2,500 to another lucky hole-in-one winner at

"Looking forward for the success of the tournament, and for the participants, we wish them all the luck," said

Mike Licop of Traders Insurance in presenting the prize to the tournament committee. "Enjoy the game, and have fun."



Atkins Kroll Saipan general manager Doug Brennan, far left, donates a 2017 Toyota Corolla iM as a hole-in-one prize at the 16th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament, to be held on June 24, 2017, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Traders Insurance Co. donates \$2,500 as a hole-in-one prize at the 16th Annual HANMI Charity Classic Golf Tournament, to be held on June 24, 2017, at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. Pictured from left are Ricky Castro, Ferdie Javillonar, Jenny Ariar, HANMI golf committee member Steve Balakrishna, Lito Mendoza, Krizia Mendoza, HANMI golf committee member Rommel Bartolo, and Mike Licop.

Golfers are reminded to register early, as available slots are usually filled early. The tournament fee is \$140; for an additional \$30, players may also compete for optional play prizes, including accurate drive circle, nearest of the pin, and accurate drive line. Registration forms are now available at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Islands Club, Coral Ocean Golf Resort, and Mariana Country Club.

The tournament is also offering a number of other holein-prizes, including \$10,000 from Century Tours, \$5,000 from Saipan Computer Services, \$2,000 from Century Insurance, a roundtrip ticket for Saipan-Narita from Delta Air Lines, a roundtrip ticket from Asiana Airlines, two roundtrip tickets for Incheon from Jeju Air, one roundtrip ticket from T-way, one firstclass roundtrip ticket from Saipan to Guangzhou or Shanghai from Saipan Travel Inc., one roundtrip ticket from Saipan to Manila to Cebu from Philippine Airlines, 4.5L Chivas Regal, and a 2017 Hyundai Tucson GL from Triple J Motors, Triple J Five Star Wholesale, and Hertz Rent A Car. The tournament is open to the first 144 paid registrants. Cash, cars, hotel night stays, and other prizes await the winners.

For more information, contact tournament chair Takahiro Omori at omori@marianaresort.com or 322-0770. (PR)

# How's Your Hearing.

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### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### **JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

Opening Date: Thursday, June 22, 2017 Closing Date: Until Filled

### Engineer, P.E.

DUTIES: Under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Position is assigned to both routine and simple water and sewer facilities and projects. Duties and responsibilities include: Perform field measurements for distance, elevation, flows, pressures and other elements related to water and sewer system designs, including configuration of water/sewer facilities, utilizing surveying equipment and GIS equipment; Design size and length of water mains, capacity (pumping rate and head) of booster stations, size, slope, and distance of sewer gravity mains and force mains, size, pumping capacity, and liquid level control of Lift stations; Design drawings to portray facilities to be constructed based on completed design and specification preparation for water systems and facilities source (wells), transmission and distribution pipelines and storage tank, including wastewater systems and facilities sewer lines, sewer pumping stations and treatment plants. Writes reports for engineering feasibility analysis, evaluations, such as wastewater flow, well production, water loss, electrical consumption, system hydraulics. Prepare scopes of work for a variety of A&E consultant services related to existing and proposed water and sewer systems; Analysis of water system operation performance by pressure zone; Operations support such as review of operating mode and system configuration; Ensure proper installation and monitoring of pilot control system using supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA); Effects repairs to multiple emergency power generators for the wastewater lift stations; Responsible for overseeing the engineering aspect of the water and wastewater system operations modifications, maintenance and repairs; and Perform other related engineering duties as assigned. Reports to the Chief Engineer, Water and Wastewater Engineering Division.

LOCATION: Water & Wastewater, Chief Engineer's Division, Saipan,

Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY: (Salary commensurate with qualification and experience)

POSITIONS: One (1)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Education: Bachelor's degree in Engineering and five (5) years professional engineering and a PE Licensed in Civil Engineering. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); Engineering and construction principles, methods, practices, and techniques; Engineering planning, specification, and drawing methods and techniques; Mathematical concepts; Applicable equipment, controls and systems of assigned area of responsibility; Safety principles and practices; Data collection techniques; Research methods; Project management principles; Contract administration principles; Customer service principles; Quality assurance principles; Modern office technology. Skill In: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Supervising, monitoring, training and evaluating staff (based on assignment) Managing complex projects and construction activities; Developing project scope and plan; Monitoring project schedules, status and compliance; Preparing plan designs, calculations, technical specifications, and other technical documentation; Planning and designing utility facilities; Performing technical review of submittals; Interpreting drawings and technical specifications; Monitoring project funding and expenditures; Maintaining project files and records; Performing research and efficiency studies; Responding to technical inquiries and information requests; Identifying, troubleshooting and investigating issues; Recommending, developing and implementing solutions; Conducting inspections; Collecting, analyzing and researching field data; Administering and monitoring contract compliance; Assisting with bid administration processes; Applying safe work practices; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants maybe tested. Subject to a pre-employment drug screening

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office

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### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 17-059

Opening Date: Thursday June 22, 2017 Until Filled

### Engineer, P.E.

**DUTIES:** Under the direct supervision of the Power Generation Division Manager or his/her designee. As assigned, supervises staff to include: prioritizing and assigning work; conducting performance evaluations; ensuring staff is trained; ensuring that employees follow policies and procedures; maintaining a healthy and safe working environment; and, making hiring, termination, and disciplinary recommendations. Manages complex water, wastewater, or electrical projects and executing programs and elements of the stipulated order as required by EPA; coordinates and meets with other divisional sections and corporate divisions to coordinate activities and projects. Performs project management activities to include: preparing reports, correspondence and recommendations; developing scope of work; providing technical reviews; surveying for projects; scheduling project elements; evaluating proposals; monitoring project progress and funding; and, recommending project selection. Prepares engineering calculations, plans and specifications; designs water, wastewater or other utility related facilities; collects data and performs project research related to project and operational costs, and efficiency analysis. Manages construction and performs contract management work; evaluates bid documents; maintains correspondence with contractors; reviews submittals; interprets drawings and technical specifications; and evaluates work for compliance with contract provisions. Performs construction inspections; reviews and processes payment requests from contractors. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned

LOCATION: Power Generation Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. SALARY: (Salary commensurate with qualification and experience)

Contracted: Yes POSITIONS: One (1)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Licensed PE, five (5) years professional engineering, and experience working in a power transmission and distribution system. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); Engineering and construction principles, methods, practices, and techniques; Engineering planning, specification, and drawing methods and techniques; Mathematical concepts; Applicable equipment, controls and systems of assigned area of responsibility; Safety principles and practices; Data collection techniques; Research methods; Project management principles; Contract administration principles; Customer service principles; Quality assurance principles; Modern office technology. Skills in: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Supervising, monitoring, training and evaluating staff (based on assignment); Managing complex projects and construction activities; Developing project scope and plan; Monitoring project schedules, status and compliance; Preparing plan designs, calculations, technical specifications, and other technical documentation; Planning and designing utility facilities; Performing technical review of submittals; Interpreting drawings and technical specifications; Monitoring project funding and expenditures; Maintaining project files and records; Performing research and efficiency studies; Responding to technical inquiries and information requests; Identifying, troubleshooting and investigating issues; Recommending, developing and implementing solutions; Conducting inspections; Collecting, analyzing and researching field data; Administering and monitoring contract compliance; Assisting with bid administration processes; Applying safe work practices; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

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### Man gets 2 years for burning car

A 52-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to two years in prison for burning his wife's car at her house in San Vicente.

Krishna Chaulagain was convicted of domestic violence: reckless burning. He was given credit for time served since his arrest on March 10, 2017.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho said a civil judgment will also be entered against Chaulagain in an amount to be determined within 90 days.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security-Immigration and Customs Enforcement was given a copy of the decision.

Chaulagain is a Nepalese

The Office of the Attorney

General had charged Chaulagain with reckless burning and criminal mischief, offenses that carry a maximum total sentence of 12 years imprisonment.

The OAG twice amended the information. The second amended information charged Chaulagain with only domestic violence: reckless burning, which carries a maximum sentence of two years imprisonment.

Chaulagain pleaded guilty yesterday to domestic violence: reckless driving as part of a plea deal. His lawyer is Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig.

Assistant attorney general Jonathan Wilberscheid appeared for the government.

Chaulagain has a prior driving under the influence conviction.

Chaulagain set his common-law wife's car on fire during a quarrel on March 8, 2017, in the garage, placing her and their two children in danger of death and bodily injury. The fire also placed his wife's house in danger.

The Department of Fire and **Emergency Medical Services** said the car was completely burned, while the house had moderate to severe heat and smoke damage.

Police learned that the couple had an argument shortly after she arrived home and found Chaulagain asleep and smelling of alcohol in the bedroom. (Ferdie de la Torre)

### NMC sets new dates for IT Boot Camp courses

Northern Marianas College has announced that it has rescheduled its CompTIA training dates to allow more students to register for the IT Boot Camp series of courses, which allow participants an opportunity to advance their way toward an IT certification.

Upon completing the program, participants will also be able to provide in practice their command of technology and leverage it to make any organization more technologically proficient and operationally efficient. The courses are:

■ A+ training course (July 10 to July 21, from 8am to

Upon successful completion of this 40-contact hour course, students will be able to:

- Describe and identify the internal components of a computer, assemble and disassemble a computer system; install and upgrade an operating system, repair and troubleshoot using system tools and diagnostic software;
- Upgrade and repair laptop components based on customer needs, perform preventive maintenance and be able to trouble components of a printer/scanner;
- Install and configure a network; upgrade components and conduct preventive maintenance and perform advanced troubleshooting.
- Network+ training course (July 10 to July 21, from 1pm to 5pm)

Upon successful completion of this 40-contact hour course, students will be able to:

- Compare the layers of the OSI and TCP/IP models, install and configure routers and switches; configure wireless network; troubleshoot network devices; configure and implement SOHO network; identify and install media types; install and configure basic firewalls;
- Troubleshoot physical connectivity problems and identify LAN technologies; perform network management upgrades and installation; install and configure network security applications;
- Describe and understand network access security and encryption and common threats, vulnerabilities and mitigation techniques.
- Network security+ training course (Session A: July 24 to Aug. 4, from 8am to 12pm; Session B: July 24 to Aug. 4, from 1pm to 5pm)

Upon successful completion of this 40-contact hour course, students will be able to:

- Identify security threats, fundamental concepts of computer security; secure network communications; monitor the security infrastructure;
- Apply and implement secure network administration principles:
- Analyze and differentiate among types of mitigation and

the function and purpose of authentication services;

■ Implement appropriate security controls when performing account management; use and apply appropriate cryptographic tools and products.

All three classes will be held at NMC's Building W computer lab. The total cost of the course is \$1,500 per student per class. Each participant will also receive the basic PC/network toolkits, access to online lab materials, and hands-on training.

Upon successfully completing the boot camp training with a COMPTIA certified instructor, students will receive an NMC certificate of completion. The Northern Marianas College is an academic CompTIA partner and will provide each student who completes the training with vouchers for the COMPTIA IT certification exams. Because NMC is a certified Pearson Vue testing center, students are able to take the CompTIA certification exam on island and do not have to travel elsewhere to do so.

For more information, contact the NMC Community Development Institute at 237-6764/6810/6809. Registration is limited for each course, so register early to reserve your seat.

Businesses, government agencies, and individuals are deterrent techniques; explain encouraged to apply. (NMC)

### NBG sets concert, fireworks on July 4

SANTA RITA, Guam—U.S. Naval Base Guam will host its next open-base event, the Freedom Rocks Festival, on July 4 at Polaris Point. This free event is open to the Guam community.

Armed Forces Entertainment will present a concert by the alternative rock band Papa Roach, starting at 7pm. Fireworks will commence soon

after the concert. There will be static displays of Navy equipment, a car show, rides for kids, food vendors (from various American and Chamorro eateries), and various beverages (including water, soda, and beer).

Gates at Polaris Point open at 3pm, and the event starts at 4pm. A valid ID (such as a Guam driver's license, except

children under 16) is required to enter Polaris Point for this free event—all patrons must be U.S. citizens. Patrons are reminded not to bring large bags, alcohol, coolers, pets, or unlawful items (such as guns, knives, etc.). Small bags and purses will be checked at the parking lot. Additionally, as a parental advisory, some songs contain explicit lyrics. (PR)

### Commerce urges businesses to submit prevailing wage survey

Since the training of enumerators that began in March, the CNMI Department of Commerce's Central Statistics Division has been conducting the 2016 Prevailing Wage and Workforce Assessment Study and data collection from over 900 businesses

According to Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, the 2016 prevailing wage survey results will be used to help determine prevailing wages for occupations in the CNMI to be used for obtaining work visas for foreign labor hiring and assess local workforce training needs and programs, and to be used for business policy decisions by business and local government leaders.

During a recent meeting with the Central Statistics Division and the 2016 Prevailing Wage and Workforce Assessment Study staff, Rabauliman expressed his appreciation to all those involved in data collection, data coding and entry, reminding them to be diligent and steadfast in their work heading into the final steps.

"It is the most critical time of the project, and I want to extend my appreciation to the

over 900 companies who have between the months of July participated and completed their survey forms. Our survey team is now diligently working with those who have yet to submit their surveys and I ask for increased efforts and cooperation among the business community in completing these survey forms and submitting them as soon as possible," Rabauliman said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres noted that the prevailing wage study is a crucial factor in determining plans for workforce development.

"Our private sector is key to economic growth and having the latest data and statistics enable a better understanding of the future of the economy while balancing the needs of the community. I ask that we continue to collaborate to ensure results that are representative of the entire Commonwealth," Torres said.

With CSD looking to complete the data collection phase on June 30, the Commerce Department will utilize the month of July to process and analyze the data in preparation for the report publication.

CSD is looking to finalize and publish the report and August.

"These dates are tentative and subject to change depending on survey submissions. It is our intent with this study to update our prevailing wage report, which up until the 2011 [study], the prevailing wage rates for all occupations was not available. The 2011 [study] provided the first data on prevailing wages and was updated in 2014, but we look forward to the 2016 study to provide current data and trends," Rabauliman said.

On Nov. 28, 2011, the federal Public Law 110-229 required that CNMI employers seeking to hire new non-U.S. eligible employees from outside the CNMI were required to pay a wage rate equal to or above the prevailing wage rate for the particular occupation the employer was seeking to fill.

Before the surveys of prevailing wages with current reliable occupation specific prevailing wage rates, CNMI employers used wage rates from other U.S. jurisdictions, a situation that will not be favorable to CNMI employers. (PR)



#### COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Office of the Secretary

Caller Box 10007, Saipan, M.P. 96950 • Tel. 664-2576 • Fax. 664-2570

#### CHILD CARE and DEVELOPMENT FUND (CCDF) PROGRAM Opens for Pre-Eligibility Assessment for placement in the CCDF Wait List

The Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (DCCA) Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program will conduct a pre-eligibility assessment for placement in the CCDF Wait List (Maintaining Eligibility). Priorities for eligibility will be set at: 1. Low Income Families with Children with Special Needs 2. Homeless Families with young children 3. Families with very low income. Please be advised that the CCDF Program is federally funded program that has eligibility and priority criteria requirements. Submission of your application to be placed on a waitlist does not guarantee automatic approval.

Pre-eligibility assessments will be done at the CCDF Program Office Bldg. 1347 Capitol Hill beginning July 12, 2017 between 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For Rota and Tinian please contact your DCCA Representatives.

For Pre-Eligibility purposes, the following documents must be presented to be entertained:

#### For Full Time Students or in Training with Zero Income:

- Valid Applicant Identification Card with Picture School Documents such as acceptance letter and/or class schedule
- Must be enrolled full time (12 credits)
- If attending ABE must provide letter from ABE Office indicating that the student is considered full
- In Training: must have documents indicating a minimum of 20 training hours weekly
- Distance Learning must address the following: the distance learning institution is recognized and accredited by the US Department of Education (htt://ope.ed.gov/accreditation), the parent or legal guardian is formally enrolled in the institution, has an educational plan, projected graduation date, identified coursework hours that need to be completed every month, quarterly, or semester.

#### For Full Time students with income:

- All requirements under letter A plus
- Three (3) latest check stubs showing: Applicant's full name, business/employer name and address, hours worked (a minimum of 30 hours weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earning for
- applicant (and co-applicant if applicable)
  Most recent 1040 Tax for applicant (and co-applicant, if applicable)

- Valid Applicant Identification Card with Picture
  Three (3) latest check stubs showing: Applicant's full name, business/employer name and address, hours worked (a minimum of 30 hours weekly), hourly rate, and gross monthly earning for applicant (and co-applicant if applicable)
  Most recent 1040 Tax for applicant (and co-applicant, if applicable)
- Current CW 1, EAD if applicable

Once an applicant has gone through the Pre-Eligibility Assessment Process he/she may be provided the application. The applicant completes the application and submits the Full Requirements as stated below. Incomplete application will not be accepted.

For questions regarding the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Program please call any of the CCDF Eligibility Specialists at 664-2575/664-2589/664-2576

### **CCDF Full Requirements**

### PARENTS ELIGIBLITY:

- Must be working at least 30 hours per week or is scheduled to start work in 2 weeks
- In Job training at least 20 hours per week
- Attending education on a full time basis
- Has a monthly gross income that does not exceed Federal Poverty Income Guideline for a family of

#### CHILD'S ELIGIBILITY:

- Resides with the parent who is in an approved activity (work, school, training)
- Be under the age of 13
- Must be a US citizen or qualified alien as defined in PRWORA

- CCDF Completed Application Form
- Valid Photo ID for each parent or legal guardian
- Copy of three (3) most recent check stubs for each parent or legal guardian (check stubs must indicate full name, Name of company/employer and address, hours worked and hourly rate)
- CCDF Employment Verification
- Most recent 1040 tax form for each parent of legal guardian if filed separately
- Child support statement
- Valid CW1, Employment Authorization Document (EAD), or Green Card if applicable Valid CW2, if applicable
- Job Training documents (must indicate hours needed for completion)
- Student class schedule (Acceptance letter for new students only) (a) Certification from school for JR/High School students (b) Online class schedule (distance
- learning requirements must be met)
- Court documents relating to guardianship or custody, if applicable Foster Care documentation, if applicable
- Statement of Assets (CCDF Form)
- Social Security Income (SSI) Statement, if applicable
- Other documents pertaining to income
- Child/ren Birth Certificate Child's Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) or Individualized Educational Plan (IEP)
- documents, if applicable
- Letter of referral from DYS, Karidat, Family Court, Nonprofit organization Map to residence
- Affidavit of Living Arrangements (must be signed in front of CCDF Staff or Court Documents for
- Please return this Application Checklist with complete requirements. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Family Size	Income Level	
1	\$1884.00	
2	\$1884.00	
3	\$2192.00	
4	\$3224.00	
5	\$3798.00	
6	\$4372.00	
7	\$4945.00	
8	\$4419.00	

/s/ Maribel S.D. Loste **CCDF Program Administrator**  /s/ Robert H. Hunter **DCCA Secretary** 

Funding from the Office of Child Care, US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

### **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

### **OES now accepting** registrations

Oleai Elementary School is now accepting registration for new and returning students for school year 2017-2018. Parents and guardians of returning students are also asked to update registration and all supporting documents. Registration forms are available at our main office. For more information or inquiry, call our main office at 664-3942. (PR)

### MHS report cards now available

Report cards for Marianas High School students are available. Registration for new incoming and returning students for Marianas High School is ongoing until July 31, 2017. Copies of all required documents must be attached before your child can be registered. Call 664-3800/01 or visit www.marianashighschool.com for more information. (PR)

#### Free presentation on coral reefs in the **Marianas**

Today, June 22, the Asia-Pacific Academy of Science, Education and Environmental Management will host a presentation by scientists aboard the research vessel Hi'ialakai at the American Memorial Park auditorium, starting at 6pm. Everyone is invited.

Questions from the audience are encouraged.

The ship also assisted NO-AA's Cetacean Research Program through the retrieval and deployment of high-frequency acoustic recording packages, or HARPs, in the Pacific Remote Islands and around Tinian and Saipan. (PR)

#### **Temporary closure of** the Garapan Fishing **Base Boat launching** ramp

All boaters and frequent visitors to the Garapan Fishing Base are reminded that the fishing base boat launching ramp will be temporarily closed until Friday, June 23 2017, to provide the Hawaiian Rock Products construction crew ample time to complete the paving of the trailer boat parking lot. Please avoid parking in the proposed paving area. For more information, contact the Department of Lands and Natural Resources at 322-9834. (PR)

### **SHEFA** now accepting applications

For all new, ongoing and returning applicants: The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program is now accepting applications for fall 2017. Application deadline is July 3, 2017, and deadline to submit all supporting documents is Sept. 30, 2017. Application and checklist can be downloaded from www. saipanshefa.net. For more information, visit the SHEFA website, email saipanshefa@ gmail.com, or call the office directly at (670) 233-5995. Applications can be scanned and emailed, submitted to the SHEFA office, or faxed to (670) 235-5996. (PR)

### **SSHS** registration

Saipan Southern High School is now accepting registration for new and returning students for school year 2017-2018. Come to our main office and pick up registration forms. All requirements must be turned in. Call 664-4000/2 for any other information. (PR)

### **KHS** registration

All parents and guardians of Kagman High School students are being informed that KHS is open for enrollment and accepting registrations all summer. It is ideal to get your registration submitted ASAP to get your child scheduled in the optimum classes they need to graduate! So far we have received less than 150 registrations from returning students. We have also received very few registration forms from incoming freshmen! Please don't delay, register your child for school today. Registration can be printed from https:// goo.gl/x2KvcL. (PR)

### Commerce updates ABTC merchants on new rules

The Department of Commerce Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division, in partnership with the Community Guidance Center, reached out to over 80 businesses during the 2017 Alcohol & Tobacco Merchant Education Workshop this week.

Out of the 100 invitations issued to managers and owners of licensed retail establishments engaged in the sales of alcohol, tobacco and betel nut products, the workshop was attended by 83 participants, who engaged in productive discussions about the serious repercussions of alcohol and tobacco sales to minors.

ABTC director David R. Maratita stated that the workshop aims to educate and train the participants on the importance of reducing, if not eliminating, the use of alcohol, tobacco and betel nut products by youth in the CNMI.

The program also targets the updates of laws, and the critical issues of retail stores selling alcohol, tobacco and betel nut products and the emphasis in combating and preventing the use these

The Green Meadow School

won first place in IT&E's

Phonebook Roundup Recy-

Bureau of Environmental

and Coastal Quality admin-

istrator Frank Rabauliman

and Environment Awareness

Month chair Jonathan Ar-

riola awarded Green Meadow

School last June 15, 2017, the

cling Contest.



products by minors under 18 years and 21 years of age," he said

Commerce Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman noted that ABTC began requiring earlier this year all licensed shops and other establishments to submit monthly sales reports of their

certificate for winning first

GMS also received \$2,000

GMS student council of-

from IT&E as part of its prize.

ficers headed the collection

of old phonebooks. Through

the effort of the whole GMS

family, parents, friends from

Gualo Rai and Chalan Kiya,

the school got the highest

place in the contest.

alcoholic beverages and tobacco product.

The new requirement took effect in January this year and the deadline of submission is every 15th day of the next month for Class-2 tobacco merchant retailers, Class-3 On-Sale, Class-4 Off-Sale,

number collection of old

The whole GMS family

wishes to thank IT&E and the

organizers of the contest for

coming up with this recycling

contest. This event also helped

the community be aware of

Part of the prize was allotted to help fund the trip of

how important recycling is.

phonebooks.

and Class-7 Special Liquor Licenses.

ABTC emphasized that monthly reports apply to establishments that fall within the four classes of retailers but that the same requirement will only be required of Class-8 (casino license) and Class-9

only be required of Class-8 (casino license) and Class-9

GMS participant Jill Anne Marie Mallari and her coach, sixth-grade teacher Lorelisa Espiritu, to the National Junior Speech and Debate Association competition that will be held in Alabama.

It will also be used to purchase playground equipment for its preschool and daycare at Chalan Kiya. *(PR)* 

(e-gaming license) retailers upon full implementation of their respective licenses.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, educational outreach on current regulations is vital to ABTC operations and compliance.

"From safeguarding our ports and commodities to ensuring the safety of our community with their purchases, I recognize the importance that these trainings have on our retailers. Continuing these outreaches serve as a deterrent to activities that would be harmful to both the business community and the general welfare of the Commonwealth. I am pleased that

The Department of Commerce Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division, in partnership with the Community Guidance Center, pose together during an outreach with over 80 businesses during the 2017 Alcohol & Tobacco Merchant Education

Workshop this week.

businesses continue to engage in responsible practices and I hope to see an increase in participation throughout our entire Commonwealth," Torres said.

Rabauliman said the knowledge and understanding of alcohol and tobacco regulations has increased, which has been instrumental in enforcement efforts.

Public Law 17-83, which prohibits alcoholic beverage sales to minors, states that the first offense is a \$1,000 fine and one-year imprisonment with community service, \$3,000 and three years imprisonment for the second offense, and a \$5,000 fine and five years imprisonment for the third offense.

"As an annual exercise, we want to ensure that establishments comply with regulations and public laws to protect our community and to educate retailers on their responsibilities," Rabauliman said.

If you or any person has information of any illegal sales or any person aiding a minor to obtain, possess, or consume alcohol and tobacco products, contact 664-3065 or 323-6560. (PR)

### Public hearing today on use of health grant

The Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant provides all 50 states, the District of Columbia, two American Indian tribes, and eight U.S. territories with funding to address their unique public health needs in innovative and locally defined ways. This program gives grantees the flexibility to use funds to fill funding gaps in programs that deal with leading causes of

death and disability.

The CNMI Preventive Health & Health Services block grant public hearing will be held today, June 22 2017, at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. in the Public Health and PHEPP conference room at 9am to collect public input on the use of fiscal year 2017 block grant funding for public health programming in the CNMI. (*PR*)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Green Meadow School wins first place in IT&E's Phonebook Roundup Recycling Contest. A portion of the \$2,00 prize money will be used to purchase playground equipment for the GMS preschool and daycare in Chalan Kiya.

## Unlimited ARC wine at

Starting today, June 22, 2017, the Aqua Resort Club will be holding what it calls *Tiempo del Vino*, from 5:30pm to 8pm, at its Vino Bar.

The promotion will will run every Thursday.

Tiempo del Vino will showcase an exclusive sampling and free flow of premium wines from Spain, Chile, and California. It will be perfect for couples and group of friends who wants to dine and unwind after a long day.

Wine will be served with authentic Spanish *tapas* while being serenaded by live music. The cost is only \$30.

To book your table, call 322-1234 or look up AquaResortSaipanOF-FICIAL on Facebook and aquaresortclubsaipan on Instagram.

### MVA, Jin Air host Japanese fam tour

As part of its ongoing efforts to attract more visitors from Japan, the Marianas Visitors Authority recently held a familiarization tour for travel agents, in cooperation with Jin

Six travel agents from Fukuoka and one Jin Air representative were in the Marianas on June 15-18, 2017, to learn more about the destination and what it can offer potential visitors, who can readily visit the Marianas aboard Jin Air from Fukuoka via Seoul, Korea.

"Jin Air is already a strong partner in our tourism industry with their daily flights from Seoul," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "The MVA is working very closely with Jin Air to strengthen that partnership by increasing awareness in Japan about the opportunity to fly Jin Air to conveniently get to the Marianas.'

The group kicked off their tour on Day 1 with visits to shopping outlets T Galleria and I Love Saipan, followed by lunch at Miyako Restaurant at Hyatt Regency Saipan. After an afternoon tour of sites in Marpi, including Bird Island Lookout, Grotto, Suicide Cliff, Japanese Last Command Post, and Banzai Cliff, the group conducted a site



Travel agents from Fukuoka, Japan, visit Forbidden Island on Saipan on June 17, 2017. The familiarization tour was hosted by the Marianas Visitors Authority and Jin Air.

inspection of Mariana Lounge before experiencing dinner at Salty's Restaurant.

Day 2 included a visit to awarding-winning Managaha Island, where Tasi Tours provided a briefing of what the island has to offer and barbecue lunch was enjoyed. Following Managaha, a series of site inspections were held at Kensingtonn, Aqua Resort Club, Sea Touch, Imperial Pacific International casino, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan and Joyful Dinner Show, and Sand-Castle Saipan cocktail show.

On the final day of the tour, the group experienced trekking to and swimming and snorkeling at Forbidden Island. Site inspections were held at Pacific Islands Club, Kanoa Resort, Saipan World Resort, and Grandvrio Resort Saipan. Dining was experienced at Bubba Gump and Giovanni's.

The group lodged at Hyatt Regency Saipan. (MVA)

### Independent Guåhan's sets June assembly

Independent Guåhan has continued to bring decolonization outreach and education to Guam's villages with two successful forums in Malesso' and Chalan Pågo. This month's general assembly will be at the Toto Community Center on June 29, from 6pm to 7:30pm. The focus this month is on the troubling history of military dumping in Guam and also creative ways communities can deal with problems such as vandalism and crime.

Each meeting, IG honors a maga'taotao, or outstanding person. This month the group will honor the legacy of Tan Deda, or Magdalena S.N. Bayani, a war survivor, master techa and pillar of the M-T-M community who passed away recently. IG honors the strength and perseverance of Tan Deda and all other war survivors as June 28 is Guam War Survivors Memorial Day.

In analyzing the impacts of World War II on Chamorros and their lands, the educational discussion for this month's GA will focus on postwar military contamination and how it has affected our health and environment. Looking to the future, the educational presentation will focus on how we can conceive of independence through village-based approaches, much like the models of sustainability practiced

by Chamorros in the past. Examples of how an independent Guåhan can use programs such as community gardens to decrease crime and vandalism will be proposed.

This month's assembly continues a village-based outreach initiative, where the group

brings informational resources and critical conversations about independence as a political status option directly into the island's villages.

Independent Guåhan's monthly assemblies are always held on the last Thursday of each month. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315



### **PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 27, 2017, at 10:00AM at the BECQ Main Conference Room, Suite 205, Gualo Rai, Middle Road, Saipan

### AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  - Call to Order
  - Roll Call

  - Adoption of Agenda Adoption of May 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes
- PERMIT APPLICATION Bridge Investment Group, LLC
  - Tinian Commercial Terminal (TMS-2017-X-067)
  - 1) Project Presentation
- Discussion and Review for Certification of Completeness
- CRM Permit Application Determination OTHER MATTERS
- Pre-application Presentation: JG Sablan Pagan Island Basalt / Pozzolan Mining
- EXECUTIVE SESSION
- ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive

JANICE E.CASTRO Acting DCRM Director



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### **JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEM**

JVA No. 17-060

Opening Date: Thursday, June 22, 2017 Closing Date: Until Filled

### Engineer, P.E.

**DUTIES:** Under the direction of the Water and Wastewater Division manager or his/her designee. Position is assigned to both routine and simple water and sewer facilities and projects. Duties and responsibilities include: Works with and support field operations, treatment and water supply staff to evaluate, develop, design, advise, support, and/or suggest to Foremen and Crews how to address, manage, develop, improve, modify or build subsystems, linear infrastructure, sub-structure elements, and so on that support and enhance the value and quality of work performed by operations staff. Perform field measurements for distance, elevation, flows, pressures and other elements related to water and sewer system designs, including configuration of water/sewer facilities, utilizing surveying equipment and GIS equipment; Design size and length of water mains, capacity (pumping rate and head) of booster stations, size, slope, and distance of sewer gravity mains and force mains, size, pumping capacity, and liquid level control of Lift stations; Design drawings to portray facilities to be constructed based on completed design and specification preparation for water systems and facilities source (wells), transmission and distribution pipelines and storage tank, including wastewater systems and facilities sewer lines, sewer pumping stations and treatment plants. Writes reports for engineering feasibility analysis, evaluations, such as wastewater flow, well production, water loss, electrical consumption, system hydraulics. Prepare scopes of work for a variety of A&E consultant services related to existing and proposed water and sewer systems, Analysis of water system operation performance by pressure zone; Operations support such as review of operating mode and system configuration; Énsure proper installation and monitoring of pilot control system using supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA); Effects repairs to multiple emergency power generators for the wastewater lift stations; Responsible for overseeing the engineering aspect of the water and wastewater system operations modifications, maintenance and repairs; and Perform other related engineering duties as assigned.

LOCATION: Water & Wastewater Operations Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA. SALARY: (Salary commensurate with qualification and experience) Contracted: Yes POSITIONS: One (1)

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS: Education: Bachelor's degree in Engineering and five (5) years professional engineering and a PE Licensed in Civil Engineering. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Supervisory principles, practices and techniques (based on assignment); Engineering and construction principles, methods, practices, and techniques; Engineering planning, specification, and drawing methods and techniques, Mathematical concepts; Applicable equipment, controls and systems of assigned area of responsibility; Safety principles and practices; Data collection techniques; Research methods; Project management principles; Contract administration principles; Customer service principles; Quality assurance principles; Modern office technology. Skill In: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Supervising, monitoring, training and evaluating staff (based on assignment); Managing complex projects and construction activities; Developing project scope and plan; Monitoring project schedules, status and compliance; Preparing plan designs, calculations, technical specifications, and other technical documentation; Planning and designing utility facilities; Performing technical review of submittals; Interpreting drawings and technical specifications; Monitoring project funding and expenditures; Maintaining project files and records; Performing research and efficiency studies; Responding to technical inquiries and information requests; Identifying, troubleshooting and investigating issues; Recommending, developing and implementing solutions; Conducting inspections; Collecting, analyzing and researching field data; Administering and monitoring contract compliance; Assisting with bid administration processes; Applying safe work practices; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants maybe tested. Subject to a pre-employment drug screening

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No.: 17-008

Opening Date: Thursday, June 22, 2017 Until filled Closing Date:

### **LEGAL COUNSEL**

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Reporting directly to CUC's Board of Directors and CUC's Chief Legal Counsel, Legal Counsel is entrusted with several matters. For example, when so instructed Legal Counsel will provide formal and informal legal advice to CUC management: Draft and review a broad range of legal documents, including legal opinions, proposed agency decisions, memoranda, contracts and other procurement documents. Legal counsel will represent CUC at a variety of meetings, negotiations and hearings; provide legal oversight of procurement contracts for goods, services and construction; assist CUC management, the board of Directors and Chief Legal Counsel with developing policy and regulations to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulatory policies, including both local and federal statutes; and investigate and implement necessary actions for compliance with laws and corporate policies. Legal Counsel works closely with Chief Legal Counsel and other outside counsel regarding ongoing litigation; advices CUC management and the Board of Directors of a variety of legal issues, including, but not limited to, billing disputes, human resource matters, property-related disputes, contract negotiations and interpretations, and personal-injury claims.

LOCATION: CUC ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, SAIPAN, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

SALARY:: (Commensurate with Qualification and Experience.)

POSITION: One (1)

CONTRACT: ONE (1) YEAR CONTRACT WITH OPTION TO RENEW FOR ONE (1) YEAR

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Successful candidates for Legal Counsel must: Hold a law degree from an accredited U.S. law school. Be a current member in good standing of the bar of any state within the United States, the CNMI or Guam. If not currently member of the CNMI Bar, be eligible for prompt admission to the CNMI Bar. For admission requirements, visit http://www.cnmilaw.org/court \_rules.htm. Have excellent interpersonal skills, be mature and self sufficient, communicate effectively orally and in writing, and possess excellent professional judgement. **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:** Although not required, successful candidates preferably will have: Experience with utility law, federal and/or state energy regulatory law, and government procurement. Contract drafting and negotiation skills. Familiarity with working in a highly regulated industry. An understanding of the economics of electric power. A working knowledge of the legal and commercial issues involved in procurement, construction contracts, project finance, operations and maintenance agreements, and other utility project agreements. Experience working for or appearing before a federal regulatory agency. Strong business judgement and the ability to understand and respond to business issues and needs. Self-motivation, self-discipline and be results-oriented, with an ability to manage priorities and workflow. The ability to independently, and handle both small and large matters with equal effectiveness and enthusiasm. A background in finance, accounting, engineering or economics. The ability to manage multiple complex matters simultaneously. It is the policy of CUC to achieve a drug-free workplace and persons selected for employment will be required to pass a drug test which screens for illegal drug use prior to final appointment.

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10 THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

### **Opinion**



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MEMBEE

**AP** The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### **EDITORIAL**

### Strings attached

gyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi, who came to power in a military coup d'etat, appears to be digging himself deeper into a hole of unpopularity among the Egyptian people. He is desperate to find money to fix a deepening fiscal mess, brought about in part by his own policies.

Sissi overthrew elected Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi of the Muslim Brotherhood in 2013, locking him up. After having himself promoted to field marshal, Sissi was then elected president in 2014 in a staged 96 percent victory. Unrest in Egypt, which preceded Morsi's election and Sissi's succession, cut a big hole in the country's tourist revenues, important to its subsistence. In the meantime, trouble with Islamic State forces in the Sinai peninsula and simmering among Egypt's Brotherhood and other opposition to Sissi and some anti-Coptic Christian violence, has not made for a healthy economy or overall society.

Sissi has sought financing from other of the Sunni Muslim-dominated states of the region, most notably Saudi Arabia. One ploy, which may in the end hurt him more than help him, was to cede to Saudi Arabia two small Red Sea islands, Sanafir and Tiran, located at the mouth of the Gulf of Aqaba. The two uninhabited islands were considered by most Egyptians to be Egyptian territory.

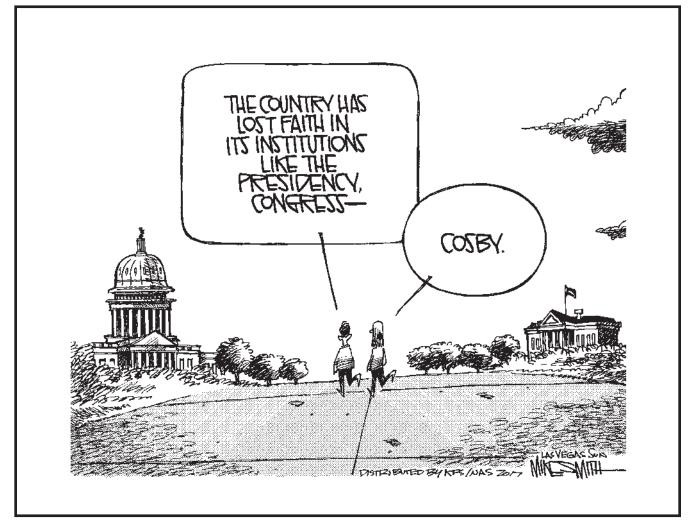
Saudi Arabia has provided Sissi's government some \$25 billion in aid and investment since 2014, when Sissi took power.

Obviously presented with the bill by Riyadh, Sissi's party shut down parliamentary debate on the islands and also signed on with Saudi Arabia in condemning fellow Sunni state Qatar for its independent posture on a range of issues, including contact with the Muslim Brotherhood and Qatar's bold broadcast media, Al-Jazeera. President Donald Trump has sided with Saudi Arabia and Egypt on the subject of Qatar, in spite of voluminous, long-term American military assets in the emirate. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson has now picked up the task of trying to make peace between Saudi Arabia and its clients and Qatar.

The fate of the two islands is the sort of nationalist issue that can continue to be a burr under the saddle of a ruler like Sissi. The Egyptians, the 21st-century edition of a culture that goes back thousands of years, tend to look down on the Saudis, their current kingdom the successor of relatively new-on-the-scene desert sheikhdoms, as unworthy of buying Egyptian territory in return for oil money. Sissi, in preparation for elections next year, has also cracked down hard on the opposition and the media in Egypt, including Al-Jazeera.

The question is whether tightening the lid will result in an explosion in Egypt, like that of the Tahrir Square, Arab Spring 2011 phenomenon, or whether Sissi will get away with selling off Egyptian territory to the Saudis for cash.

(c)2017 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



### Set health-care course that covers more people

he doors of America's teaching hospitals are open to all, 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Few other industries can make the same claim. We promise our patients that we'll provide them with the very best care during their time of need, day or night, and regardless of who they are and whether or not they can be counted among those with access to affordable health insurance. However, it is not a promise that we can fulfill alone.

As CEO of the University of Pennsylvania Health System, one of the largest integrated health systems in the country, I have seen the devastating effects that a lack of health insurance can have on individual families and on the nation's health-care system as a whole. The direction health-care reform discussions have taken in Washington would set us down a disastrous path as a nation, with costs we cannot bear socially or financially.

The real-world impact of proposals under consideration would be stark. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the recently passed House American Health Care Act would increase the number of uninsured Americans by 23 million and make \$834 billion in cuts to Medicaid, which provides coverage for low-income families and the disabled, by 2026. Hit particularly hard would be states in which millions of people—including many children and individuals with preexisting conditions—have obtained affordable health insurance over the last four years through insurance exchanges and changes to Medicaid eligibility.

In addition, provisions in the plan related to tax credits to support insurance premiums (in lieu of current subsidies) and underfunded high-risk pools would not adequately protect older and sicker individuals. The middle class would face untenable financial strain. Middle-aged, preretirement Pennsylvanians, for instance, could be responsible for \$16,100 in annual health-care premiums alone. That's a nearly tenfold increase in coverage costs under the Affordable Care Act, for which this group pays around \$1,700 annually.

Access to care is critical for improving patients' health and lowering the costs of care. Physicians and other health professionals in our hospitals spend much of their time developing strategies to keep our patients out of our hospitals, and manage their needs in outpatient clinics and through telemedicine—mobile-device health apps, for example—which can help to manage care more efficiently and at a lower cost. This is particularly true for patients with chronic disease, for whom regular office visits and monitoring offer a path to keeping up with medication regimens and getting ahead of complications before they result in a trip to the hospital.

Patients who lose health insurance are sure to forgo or delay

### By RALPH W. MULLER

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Ralph W. Muller is CEO of the University of Pennsylvania Health System. Readers may send him email at Ralph. Muller@uphs.upenn.edu. He wrote this for The Philadelphia Inquirer.



this necessary care. The ripple effect will create instability across the health-care delivery system. Rather than receiving care in an appropriate, low-cost setting, patients will land in our hospital emergency rooms, the safety net for our most vulnerable patients. Once again, costs for uncompensated care of uninsured patients will soar. Repealing the ACA without an appropriate replacement could devastate many hospitals and the communities they serve.

With just a few weeks left before the July recess, the Senate is in position to set our nation's course on health care for generations to come. I urge senators to avoid searching for a political solution for a social problem. Cancer, car accidents, and heart attacks do not choose sides: Democrats and Republicans alike will rely on and reap the benefits of a robust, equitable health-care reform plan. Both have friends and loved ones who are at risk of becoming one of the millions of Americans without access to affordable health insurance.

First, I call on our federal elected officials to set the bar higher: Start with a goal of covering more people over the next 10 years. Cutting Americans off from lifesaving care is anathema to our American value system. Although more than 20 million people gained insurance through the ACA, there are still 28 million Americans without health insurance. This is neither acceptable nor sustainable.

Second, we must protect the most vulnerable among us, by safeguarding Medicaid recipients and those with pre-existing conditions

Finally, we must encourage greater cost-savings innovation in health care overall. There are many ways to bend the cost curve that do not rely on excluding a large group of Americans simply because they are too sick, or poor or old. Innovation is a cornerstone of American medicine throughout history, which has propelled generations of discoveries and cures. We must continue that proud tradition.

As you read these words, the doors of our hospitals are open, with doctors, nurses and other medical staff at the ready. Congress, help us keep our promise.

**EDITORIAL POLICY**Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immedi-

ately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

### Gun violence is America's shame

he annual congressional baseball game dates back to 1909 and is now one of the only public displays of bipartisanship left in Washington, D.C. The game, which pits Republicans against Democrats, mirrors similar events that dominate American culture every summer—Little League competitions, corporate charity events and Major League series. Baseball is, after all, our national pastime.

And gun violence is our national shame, as American as apple pie and, yes, baseball.

The attack last week on the Republican team's final practice before the game by a shooter reportedly armed with an assault rifle was a chilling reminder of the 2011 attempt on Congresswoman Gabby Giffords' life, which left six dead. It raises serious concerns about ensuring the security of our elected officials and their staff.

For many parents, such concerns are a part of everyday life. In communities across the country, parents cannot safely send their kids to school, to parks or to baseball practice for fear of gunfire.

Earlier this month, shots were fired near a baseball field in Chicago where the Loyola Park Dodgers youth baseball team was playing, causing panicked parents and coaches to frantically move the children into the field house. In May, a shooting at Davenport Park in Akron, Ohio, during a basketball game led parents to chip in to pay for an off-duty police officer to provide security at future games. Last November, two people were killed and four injured in a shooting during the annual "Juice Bowl" youth football game at Shawnee Park in Louisville, Ky. And 15-year-old Hadiya Pendleton was killed in a Chicago park just a week after performing at President Obama's inauguration in January 2013.

So far this year, there have been more than 27,800 shoot-

ings that have taken the lives of more than 6,800 people and injured an additional 13,500. To say that the U.S. lags behind other peer nations on this measure is a gross understatement. The gun fatality rate in the U.S. is 25 times higher than other high-income nations. For young victims ages 15 to 24, the rate is 49 times higher. Women in this country are 11 times more likely to be killed with a gun than their international peers.

The burden of this violence does not fall equally. While African-Americans make up only 14 percent of the population, they account for 56 percent of gun fatality victims. Nearly 50 percent of gun shooting victims are between the ages of 15 and 29, and gun violence has taken over the top spot as the leading cause of death for young people.

While the epidemic of gun violence in this country and the maddening politics around the issue can make this feel like an intractable problem, nothing could be further from the truth. There is a growing body of research showing that states that have enacted common sense measures—such as universal background checks, limits on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines and restricting gun access by domestic abusers—have significantly lower rates of gun violence than permissive states.

A Center for American Progress study released in October found that the 10 states with the weakest gun laws collectively have an aggregate level of gun violence that is three times higher than the 10 states with the strongest gun laws. Other research from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health found that when Missouri eliminated a requirement that individuals obtain a permit before purchasing a handgun, gun-related deaths in the state increased 26 percent. And when Connecticut enacted this same requirement, gun deaths fell 40 percent.

#### By CHELSEA PARSONS

Los Angeles Times

Chelsea Parsons is vice president of guns and crime policy at the Center for American Progress. She wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



State legislatures around the country have finally begun to heed the call of a majority of Americans to do something to address this public health crisis of gun violence. Since the shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary school in December 2012, seven states have strengthened their laws regarding background checks for gun sales, five have legislated to restrict access to assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and 20 have enacted new laws to ensure that domestic abusers do not have easy access to guns. New polling shows that public support is higher than ever for measures like these.

In addition to high levels of support for policies like universal background checks—support that is shared among Republicans and Democrats, gun owners and non-gun owners—a new poll conducted by Penn Schoen Berland found that 54 percent of voters feel there should be fewer guns in circulation in America's neighborhoods.

Since the start of this baseball season, approximately 3,120 people have been killed with guns in this country—more than four times as many people as the active Major League Baseball roster. Perhaps, at long last, the bipartisan spirit of baseball that imbues the annual congressional game will stay with the members as they return to Capitol Hill, and they will finally take action to address this epidemic nationwide.

### Trump's Cuba move more bark than bite

heered by Cuban-American supporters in Miami's Little Havana, President Donald Trump announced grandly he was "canceling" his predecessor's "terrible and misguided deal" between the U.S. and Communist Cuba.

Fortunately, Trump exaggerated the extent of his actions. Unfortunately, he took some, once more positioning himself on the wrong side of both history and public opinion.

As President Barack Obama correctly foresaw, increasing Cuba's relations with the democratic world, especially the United States, is far more likely to bring about change than the totally negative Cold War policy undertaken more than a half-century ago.

Ironically, just days earlier, Trump's secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, took that very position, though not specifically with regard to Cuba, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"The more we engage with other nations on issues of security and prosperity, the more we will have opportunities to shape the human rights conditions in those nations," said Tillerson, who was not at Trump's Friday announcement. "History has shown that the United States leaves a footprint of freedom wherever it goes."

To be fair, only unrealistic optimists believed Obama's moves, in themselves, would end Cuba's communist dictatorship and its policies curbing political dissent. Changes have eased the means of punishment, not ended it, reports Human Rights Watch, which monitors such issues around the globe.

"The Cuban government continues to repress dissent and punish public criticism," it said. "It now relies less than in past years on long-term prison sentences to punish its critics, but short-term arbitrary arrests of human rights defenders, independent journalists and others have increased dramatically in recent years."

At the same time, there has been a steady growth in inter-

net access and in the country's non-governmental economic sector, primarily by individual entrepreneurs who took advantage of the flood of new American tourists.

Greater American access to Cuba would expand that further, benefiting both countries, a position long held by many American businesses, especially in the agriculture sector. Both the National Association of Manufacturers and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce see Cuba as a ripe new market and want to end the 50-year-old U.S. trade embargo.

Caterpillar Inc., a major farm equipment manufacturer, issued a statement soon after Trump's announcement that, "Caterpillar believes that engagement with Cuba continues to represent a strong opportunity—not just for American businesses, but to serve as a powerful tool for change."

As for Trump, one motive may have been a desire to undo a signature Obama legacy.

Much of his 2016 campaign rhetoric was aimed at Obama's policies, including a September speech in Miami vowing to reverse "all of the concessions that Barack Obama has granted the Castro regime ... unless the Castro regime meets our demands. Those demands will include religious and political freedom for the Cuban people and the freeing of political prisoners."

None of those "demands" have been met. But, despite Friday's sweeping language, Trump's actual steps stopped far short of reversing all of Obama's moves.

Diplomatic relations will continue, as will the ability of Cuban-Americans to send money to their relatives on the island and the expanded telecommunications and internet access there. Trump's main step was to restore some limits on U.S. travel to Cuba by individual Americans, including banning business with hotels and restaurants controlled by the Cuban military.

With Trump, it's often difficult to determine the degree to which such moves are primarily ideological or political. In

### By CARL P. LEUBSDORF

The Dallas Morning News

Carl P. Leubsdorf is a columnist for The Dallas Morning News. Readers may email him at carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.



this case, the political appeal may be limited to a small area of south Florida—if there.

A recent poll by the nonpartisan Morning Consult for a group supporting expanded trade with Cuba showed 64 percent of Republicans favored maintaining Obama's trade and travel liberalization and 55 percent of them favored scrapping the U.S. trade embargo entirely.

In Washington, a bipartisan coalition of 55 of the Senate's 100 members has cosponsored legislation to end the embargo. But Trump's opposition probably precludes early action.

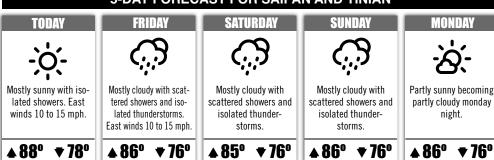
Even in Florida, the percentage of Cuban-American voters favoring the GOP's hard line toward Cuba has gone down as the population has aged. Once heavily Republican, the state's Cuban-Americans voted relatively evenly in 2012 and 2016, though Trump did slightly better than Mitt Romney in 2012. But two decades earlier, former President George Bush polled more than three-fourths of Florida's Cuban-American vote.

Meanwhile, the Democratic share of Florida's growing non-Cuban Hispanic vote has risen sharply, to about 60 percent for both Obama and Hillary Clinton.

The best news about Trump's speech is that it is more bark than bite. As in other areas, hopes for restoring a more realistic policy will have to await the election of another president. **12** THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

### The Weather

#### 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN



### YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



### PICTURE TIME: 7:08 AM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017 WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC BETWEEN EQUATOR AND 25N FROM 130E TO 180.

Gentle to moderate trade winds continue, the only exception still being that a fairly active TUTT (Tropical Upper Tropospheric Trough) and attendant upper-level lows will create upper-level divergence that could allow some of the trade-wind showers to become thunderstorms. The cells near Chuuk will likely pass south of Guam, new ones are being forecast to form and move in. These are looking likely to arrive starting Friday, and could last into Sunday. The TUTT is trending us toward wet season so the majority of the forecast is now mostly cloudy. With benign marine conditions in the forecast, no weather related hazards are anticipated through the weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONES	<b>▼ A</b> °F	
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	90 I 80 °F
Palau	Thunderstorms	84 I 77 °F
Yap	Partly Cloudy	87 I 72 °F
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86 I 80 °F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	84 I 80 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	84 I 78 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84 I 80 °F

iviajaro		
<b>AROUND TH</b>	HE GLOBE	<b>▼ A</b> °F
Auckland	Rain	63   57 °F
Beijing	Thunderstorms	87 I 77 °F
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	86 I 82 °F
Honolulu	Sunny	85   74 °F
London	Rain	81 I 58 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	86 I 64 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	87 I 78 °F
Melbourne	Cloudy	57 I 44 °F
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87 I 79 °F
New York	Mostly Sunny	80 I 71 °F
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	75 I 66 °F
Paris	Partly Cloudy	95 I 60 °F
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	94 I 68 °F
Rome	Mostly Sunny	92 I 67 °F
Salem	Mostly Sunny	78   51 °F
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	74 I 58 °F
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	88 I 66 °F
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	84 I 68 °F
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	93   74 °F



Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN	I HARBOR TOD	AY FEET
5:02 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.09
12:18 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.36
7:05 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.89
-	-	-

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:49 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Monday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	3:44 AM	4:48 PM	-
Friday	4:40 AM	5:45 PM	-
Saturday	5:40 AM	6:56 PM	-
Sunday	6:43 AM	7:57 PM	-
Monday	7:46 AM	8:55 PM	-

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### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 19, 2017

UA6397

UA6399

DEPARTURES					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					
UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily		
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily		
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota		
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6		
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily		
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily		

### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

1:30pm 2:05pm UA6391 1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM 2:35pm 3:10pm 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-S	SEOUL (IC	CN)	
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4, 5
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

#### SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) 7C3451 3:10am 6:10am 1, 7 OZ608 3:10am 6:20am 4, 7 4:00am 7:05am 4, 5 7C3451

8:35pm

Daily

### **SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)**

ZE582

1:30am 6:35am 3, 5, 7

4:45pm

#### SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 4:20am 7:30am

### SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 5:20am 8:00am 1, 4, 5, 7

#### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

4:15pm 7:00pm Daily

l	SAIPAN-MA	ANILA (I	MNL)	
l	OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
l	OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICI
l	UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
l	UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	Daily via GUM
l	PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4
l	UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
l	UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUN
l	UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-
l	ROR	-	·	
l	UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
l	UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM

### SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UA6390/193

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
HX077 OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
	-		

2:20pm 10:40pm

2 via GUM-ROR

#### ARRIVALS **GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN** UA6393 2:45am 3:35am 7:15am 8:05am UA6395 Daily 1, 4, 5, 7 UA6391 12:10pm 1:00pm UA6390 12:10pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6 via Rota

Daily

Daily

4:45pm 5:35pm

8:30pm 9:20pm

#### **GUAM** (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390 12:10pm 12:45pm 2, 3, 6

#### ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

1:15pm 1:50pm 2, 3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3, 4
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

### **BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

7C3452 9:00pm 2:10am+1 4 OZ607 9:05pm 1:55am+1 3, 6 9:05pm 2:10am+1 3, 6, 7 7C3452

#### BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763 4:25pm 12:30am+1 2, 4, 6

### **GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**

7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5

### SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

10:20pm 4:30am+1 3, 4, 6, 7 3U8647

#### NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA184/6395

**DL298** 10:20am 2:50pm Daily

#### MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN UA190/6397 9:55am 5:35pm 2. 3. 6. 7 via GUM 12:15pm OZ702/625 1:10am+1 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN OZ702/625 12:15pm 1:45am+1 PR1571 9:10pm 3:40am+1 UA192/6395 9:45pm 8:05am+1 2, 5 via ROR-GUM UA184/6395 10:25pm 8:05am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via GUM PR110/UA6395 10:55pm 8:05am+1

11:30pm 8:05am+1

2, 5 via GUM

### HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

ı		•	•	
	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
ı	UO42	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
	HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
	UO42	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
	UO42	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
	UO42	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
	UO42	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
	UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN T	O DOTA		_	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT # 1301 1302 1303	DEPARTURE 7:30AM 11:30AM 4:00PM	ARRIVAL 8:00AM 12:00PM 4:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	1205 1206 1207 1208 1209	11:00AM 12:00PM 1:00PM 2:00PM 3:00PM	11:15AM 12:15PM 1:15PM 2:15PM 3:15PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily Daily
<b>ROTA TO</b>	SAIPAN			1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE 8:15AM	ARRIVAL 8:45AM	FREQUENCY Daily	1211 1212	5:00PM 6:00PM	5:15PM 6:15PM	Daily Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	TINIAN TO	SAIPAN		
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	FLIGHT#	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
<b>ROTA TO</b>	GUAM			2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
<b>FLIGHT #</b> 3401	DEPARTURE 12:15PM	<b>ARRIVAL</b> 12:45PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2103 2104 2105	8:30AM 9:30AM 10:30AM	8:45AM 9:45AM 10:45AM	Daily Daily Daily
<b>GUAM TO</b>	ROTA			2105	11:30AM	10.45AM	Daily
<b>FLIGHT #</b> 4301	<b>DEPARTURE</b> 1:00PM	ARRIVAL 1:30PM	FREQUENCY Daily	2107 2108	12:30PM 1:30PM	12:45PM 1:45PM	Daily Daily
SAIPAN T	O TINIAN			2109 2110	2:30PM 3:30PM	2:45PM 3:45PM	Daily
FLIGHT # 1201 1202 1203	DEPARTURE 7:00AM 8:00AM 9:00AM	<b>ARRIVAL</b> 7:15AM 8:15AM 9:15AM	FREQUENCY Daily Daily Daily	2110 2111 2112 2113	4:30PM 5:30PM 6:30PM	4:45PM 5:45PM 6:45PM	Daily Daily Daily Daily

SAIPAN TRIBUNE THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 **13** 

### **Business**

### Puerto Rico families fight, flee a surge in foreclosures

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Elvis Guzman opened the letter, saw it was in English and took it to his lawyer for translation.

The 59-year-old who sells recycled metal for a living figured it was another letter from the bank warning his family that they were behind on their mortgage payments. But the news from the attorney shocked him.

"He told me I was losing my home. When he told me that, I burst into tears," Guzman recalled. "You have no idea the depression I'm going through. I am going to fight tooth and nail for this house."

An average of 14 families lose homes every day to foreclosure in Puerto Rico, more than double the rate a decade ago as the island faces a realestate crash worse than the one that sparked the great recession on the U.S. mainland. Families across Puerto Rico are moving in with relatives, becoming homeless or simply fleeing to the U.S. mainland with destroyed credit records as the island's government struggles to restructure a portion of its \$73 billion public debt and help the economy emerge from a



Elvis Guzman and his wife Stella Canete and their daughters pose for a photo in their backyard in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Tuesday, June 20, 2017.

decade-long recession.

"It's the crisis no one is talking about," said Ricardo Ramos, a professor at the Legal Assistance Clinic of the University of Puerto Rico.

## Experts: Takata bankruptcy means air bag victims get less

**DETROIT** (AP)—A bank-ruptcy filing by Japanese air bag maker Takata will leave little money for dozens of people who sued the company over deaths and injuries caused by its exploding air bag inflators, according to outside legal experts and lawyers suing the company.

Takata Corp. and its U.S. operations are likely to seek bankruptcy protection by the end of June in a deal that would sell its assets to competitor Key Safety Systems Inc., a person briefed on the talks said. The person didn't want to be identified because discussions are in progress.

The price Key will pay is unknown, but much of it likely will go toward paying a \$1 billion U.S. criminal settlement. Most of the settlement money will go to automakers as restitution for recall costs.

Key is expected to buy Takata's assets "free and clear" of past liabilities, and lawyers say there won't be enough money to give victims what they would have received if they were suing a healthy company.

So far the faulty inflators have killed 11 people in the U.S. and 16 worldwide. Over

180 people have been injured. The problem touched off the biggest recall in U.S. automotive history, involving 19 automakers, 42 million vehicles and up to 69 million inflators. About 100 million inflators have been recalled worldwide.

Some victims have serious facial injuries from metal shrapnel and would win large verdicts if Takata were financially strong, lawyers say. Kevin Dean, a South Carolina lawyer who has 25 cases pending against Takata, said one of his clients, a 26-year-old man, will never be able to smile due to nerve damage.

"It destroys people's faces. It's just a horrible injury," said Kent Emison, a Missouri, lawyer whose firm is considering a lawsuit against Takata and others on behalf of a woman whose trachea was punctured by shrapnel.

Takata's troubles stem from use of the explosive chemical ammonium nitrate in the inflators to deploy air bags in a crash. The chemical can deteriorate when exposed to hot and humid air and burn too fast, blowing apart a metal canister and spewing out metal fragments.

"This has so, so many consequences."

In this U.S. territory of 3.4 million people, local courts oversaw foreclosures on nearly 33,000 homes from 2009 to 2016, according to government statistics. A record 5,424 homes were foreclosed last year, up 130 percent from nearly a decade ago, when the government first began tracking those numbers.

However, the actual number of foreclosures is much higher because the statistics

do not include an estimated 20,000 loans in default or close to default that local banks have sold to companies outside Puerto Rico since 2009, Ramos said. Those cases are largely handled in federal court and no one compiles statistics.

Looking ahead, more than 17,000 homes are now in the process of foreclosure in local courts, including the one Guzman bought more than a decade ago in a working class suburb in the capital of San

Juan that he shares with his wife, who works as a maid, and two young daughters.

He was paying \$1,114 a month on their home when the prices for copper, iron and other metals dropped. His business shrank and he filed for bankruptcy. He then fell behind on his mortgage payments and recently got denied a payment plan despite insisting he can afford to pay \$700 a month.

decade ago in a working class "My attorney told me, 'You suburb in the capital of San have to prepare yourself for a

Plan B," Guzman said. "I'm not doing that ... I don't know what's going to happen, but I'm not leaving my house."

Nonprofit organizations struggling with dwindling budgets amid the island's economic slump say the jump in foreclosures has led to a surge of Puerto Ricans seeking help amid a deep economic crisis.

"The great majority are professionals," said Leslie Ortiz, spokeswoman for the Salvation Army in Puerto Rico. "It's people who have studied, who have worked and have lost everything and don't know where to go to find help because they've never needed it."

Of the 35 people recently staying at the Salvation Army's shelter for men in Puerto Rico, nearly half were there because they lost their homes and have no substance abuse or other issues, she said.

The group also is providing financial help to people like Sandra Maldonado, a 40-year-old divorced mother of two boys who is in danger of losing her home.

Maldonado and her exhusband bought the three-bedroom home for \$70,000 with the help of federal and local incentives more than a decade ago. She is now behind on her mortgage because she recently had to choose whether to pay for her son's medical care and make a house payment. She has borrowed money from family and friends on occasion as letters from the bank accumulate.

### Student loan servicer fights back as states eye protections

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP)— The nation's largest servicer of federal student loans has lobbied against states' efforts to license student loan servicers in Maine and elsewhere this year as it seeks to become the nation's single servicer of student loans under a plan backed by U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos.

State records reviewed by The Associated Press show Navient Corp. has reported spending at least \$44,000 since January on lobbyists in Maine, New York and Washington, states where lawmakers are considering licensing requirements.

Lawmakers this year have considered such licensing and oversight bills in at least 10 states, including Illinois and Washington, whose state attorneys general have joined the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau by filing lawsuits accusing Navient of unfair and deceptive practices with lend-

ing and debt collection.

Navient calls such allegations false and politically motivated. Spokeswoman Nikki Lavoie said Navient has supported student loan policy reform to simplify repayment and better educate borrowers.

"We have engaged local representation in some states to make sure that policymakers have the facts on student loan servicing before they attempt to set servicing standards on federal student loans, which is likely to result in more complex, difficult and competing state-by-state processes for borrowers to navigate," Lavoie said.

Critics say the Wilmington, Delaware-based company is only worried about profits and not the rights of the millions of Americans who carry student loan debt.

"I wish Navient would put more effort into training borrowers about repayment plans to keep borrowers out of default than lobbying to protect their bottom line," said Natalia Abrams, executive director of advocacy group Student Debt Crisis.

Scrutiny is growing as Navient seeks to become the nation's only servicer of student loans under a proposal backed by DeVos.

Nationwide, more than 44 million people collectively owe more than \$1 trillion in student loan debt, with millions in default and high delinquency rates among minority borrowers. Seth Frotman, of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, praised state efforts to increase oversight over student loan servicers as smaller, private loan servicers and refinancers increasingly enter the market.

A move to streamline federal loan servicing started under President Barack Obama's administration, and Navient is one of three entities still in the running for a contract to service an estimated 32 million federal direct student loans. DeVos tweaked the plan to allow one vendor to service all federal student loans, a move she said would improve customer service, limit costs and improve federal oversight of servicers.

That change and Navient's lobbying against state licensing efforts are drawing concern from consumer advocacy groups, who point to federal scrutiny over Navient and President Donald Trump's administration's moves to change regulations protecting borrowers.

"From our perspective, that's going to require more state oversight," said Whitney Barkley-Denney, from the Center for Responsible Lending. "One servicer creates a too-big-to-fail environment where it's a state-created monopoly for student loan servicing."



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### **Nation**

### Trump likely to reveal this week whether secret tapes exist

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is expected to make an announcement in the coming days on whether any recordings exist of his private conversations with former FBI Director James Comey, potentially bringing to an end one of the central mysteries of the ongoing probe that has consumed his White House.

White House press secretary Sean Spicer said Tuesday that he expects an announcement "this week" on the possibility of tapes. The president fired Comey in May and then tweeted that the lawman, who

was overseeing the investigation into possible contacts between Trump's campaign and Russian officials, "better hope that there are no 'tapes' of our conversations before he starts leaking to the press."

Trump and his aides have since then steadfastly refused to clarify that extraordinary if ambiguous warning. The president last month told reporters that "I'll tell you about that maybe sometime in the near future" but offered no hints as to whether the tapes exists, except saying that some journalists would "be very disappointed" to find out the answer.

The House intelligence committee has asked White House counsel Don McGahn to provide an answer to the question about tapes by Friday. Under a post-Watergate law, the Presidential Records Act, recordings made by presidents belong to the people and can eventually be made public. Destroying them would be a crime.

Comey testified before the Senate that Trump asked for his loyalty and asked for him to drop the probe into former National Security Adviser Michael Flynn. Some have raised the possibility that Trump's request constituted obstruction of justice, but the president has yet to produce the tapes that could theoretically clear his name.

The investigation was originally launched to look into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election. Trump has at times cast doubt on that conclusion, and Spicer said Tuesday that he has yet to discuss with the president whether he believes that Moscow was behind the election interference.

"I have not sat down and talked to him about that specific thing," Spicer said.

America's top intelligence

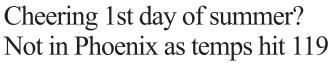
officials have concluded that Russia undoubtedly interfered in America's 2016 presidential campaign. Characterizing it as the "high-confidence judgment of the entire intelligence community." Comey testified that there is no doubt that the Russians meddled "with "purpose," "sophistication" and technology. Trump, meanwhile, has dismissed investigations into the meddling and potential collusion with his campaign associates as a "witch hunt."

Robert Mueller, the special counsel now overseeing the investigation, met Tuesday with the leaders of the House Intelligence committee. Reps.

Mike Conaway, R-Texas, and Adam Schiff, D-Calif., issued a brief statement saying the meeting but provided no details about their discussion.

Mueller is slated to meet Wednesday with top members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, including the chairman, GOP Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa, and the top Democrat, Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California. He'll also meet with Sens. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I.

One reason for the Capitol Hill meetings is to ensure there is no conflict between Mueller's probe and the work of the congressional committees.



PHOENIX (AP)—The first day of summer brought some of the worst heat the Southwest U.S. has seen in years, forcing flights to be canceled, straining the power grid and making life miserable for workers toiling in temperatures that reached 120 degrees or higher in some desert cities.

Arizona, Nevada and California saw dramatic temperatures Tuesday as researchers say deadly heat waves like this one were going to grow more frequent.

Meteorologists in Phoenix said Tuesday evening the temperature topped out at 119 degrees-one that has only been matched or surpassed four other times.

The forecast called for a high of 120 degrees (49 degrees Celsius) in Phoenix, which it hasn't seen in more than two decades. Death Valley, California, reached 125 and Palm Springs hit 121, still a degree lower than the same day last year.

The operator of California's power grid called on people to conserve electricity during peak hours.

Workers at a construction site in a Phoenix suburb huddled under an excavator to find a sliver of a shade during a break. At another building site, men in hard hats and yellow vests labored and sweated in the heat, downing water to stay hydrated. Project superintendent Tommy Russell says his company has held weekly safety meetings to prepare for the heat, and he will send his workers home if it hits 120.

Las Vegas also baked. Visitors tried to stay inside air-conditioned casinos, and some tourists lugged packs of bottled water around the Strip. Others went to a bar where the temperature is set at 23 degrees and glasses, walls and seats are sculpted from ice.

Tonya and Lavonda Williams traveled to Sin City from Orlando, Florida, to see the Backstreet Boys in concert. Walking on the Strip in 112 degrees was too much to handle, even for people accustomed to heat.

"This is like the oven door is open," Lavonda Williams said as the sisters walked from a pedestrian bridge into The Palazzo casino-resort.

"It's too hot to even drink alcohol," Tonya Williams added.

Landscaper Juan Guadalupe scaled a spindly palm tree more than 50 feet tall in Phoenix, using a chain saw to hack the branches. He didn't mind being tethered to a tall tree because he occasionally catches a cool breeze.

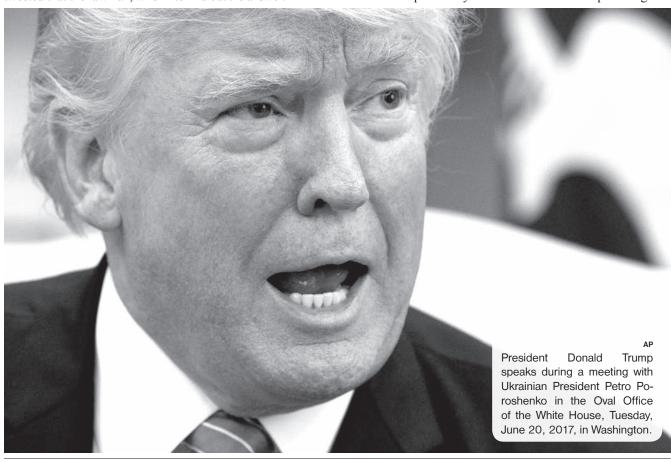
"Down here, it's hot," Guadalupe said.

With cooling and hydration stations in full swing across the region, hundreds flocked to Grace Lutheran Church in Phoenix for water and refuge.

"We have homeless people come from a long way to sit here," longtime volunteer Moses Elder said. "There are other spots where you can go get cold water and sit down and cool off, but there are few places you can lay down and get something to eat."

Phoenix has hit 120 only three times in recorded history. The record high was 122 degrees on June 26, 1990.

In Palm Springs, Jim Brooks only had to walk 50 yards from his car to a burger restaurant but felt like he nearly melted in the process.



### Coroner still probing death of US student held by N. Korea

CINCINNATI (AP)—A cause of death hasn't been determined for a 22-year-old college student who was detained for nearly a year and a half in North Korea before being sent home in a coma, an Ohio coroner's office said Tuesday.

Hamilton County 's Dr. Lakshmi Sammarco's office released a statement saying Otto Warmbier's family objected to an autopsy so only an external exam of his body was done. It said his medical records from an air ambulance service that brought him to Ohio and from the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, where he was hospitalized until his death Monday, have been reviewed, and the treating physicians have been interviewed extensively.

"No conclusions about the cause and manner of Mr. Warmbier's death have been drawn at this time as there are additional medical records and imaging to review and people to interview," the coroner's office statement said, expressing "deepest sympathies" for his family and friends.

The funeral for Warmbier will be held at 9 a.m. Thursday at Wyoming High School, where he was an athlete and salutatorian of his 2013 class.

"All those that wish to join his family in celebrating his life are cordially invited," said the Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum.

The coroner's office daily report Tuesday included Warmbier in its listings with cause of death termed "pending."

Wambier's parents did not cite a specific cause of death but blamed "awful, torturous mistreatment" by North Korea. Doctors last week described Warmbier's condition upon his return June 13 as a

state of "unresponsive wakefulness" and said he suffered a "severe neurological injury" of unknown cause.

Warmbier, a University of Virginia student, was accused of trying to steal a propaganda banner while visiting with a tour group and was convicted of subversion.

He was sentenced in March 2016 to 15 years in prison with hard labor. His family said it was told he had been in a coma since soon after his sentencing.

President Donald Trump said Tuesday that Warmbier's death after his lengthy detention in North Korea was a "total disgrace" and that if the college student had been returned home to the U.S. earlier, "I think the result would have been a lot different."

Doctors said Warmbier suffered extensive loss of brain tissue and "profound weakness and contraction" of his muscles, arms and legs. Unresponsive wakefulness is a medical term for persistent vegetative state.

North Korea said Warmbier went into a coma after contracting botulism and taking a sleeping pill. Doctors in Cincinnati said they found no active sign of botulism or evidence of beatings.

Warmbier had planned to study in China in his third year of college and heard about Chinese travel companies offering trips to North Korea. He was leaving North Korea on Jan. 2, 2016, when he was detained at the airport.

Three Americans remain held in North Korea. The U.S. government accuses North Korea of using such detainees as political pawns. North Korea accuses Washington and South Korea of sending spies to overthrow its government.

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### Asia

### Rebels attack PH village, possibly to divert troops

KIDAPAWAN, Philippines (AP)—Muslim rebels raided a southern Philippine village and positioned themselves in a school as they engaged troops in a gunbattle early Wednesday that officials said may be an attempt to disrupt the massive military offensive in besieged Marawi city.

Police Chief Inspector Realan Mamon told The Associated Press by telephone that gunmen from the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters raided the village of Malagakit in North Cotabato province at dawn and engaged government forces in a firefight. Villagers fled to safety.

"I got a report that the attackers occupied an elementary school but it's not sure whether people were trapped in the fighting or were taken hostage," said Mamon, the police chief of Pigkawayan town, where Malagakit is located. The Malagakit school was closed at the time of the attack.



**ASIAN BRIEFS** 

### US sends supersonic bombers in show of force against N.Korea SEOUL, South Korea

(AP)—The United States flew two supersonic bombers over the Korean Peninsula on Tuesday in a show of force against North Korea, South Korean officials said. The U.S. often sends powerful warplanes in times of heightened animosities with North Korea, and flew B-1B bombers several times this year as the North conducted a series of banned ballistic missile tests. Tuesday's flights by B-1Bs came shortly after the death of a U.S. college student who was recently released by North Korea in a coma following more than 17 months of captivity. Seoul's Defense Ministry said the bombers engaged in routine exercises with South Korean fighter jets aimed at showing deterrence against North Korea.

### Tokyo's governor decides to keep famous Tsukiji fish market

TOKYO (AP)—Tokyo's giant Tsukiji fish market, popular with tourists, won't be destroyed, although it will be closed for up to five years while it is modernized and turned into a "food theme park," the capital's governor said Tuesday. The market will move to a state-of-theart 600 billion yen (\$6 billion) facility in Toyosu on the

eastern outskirts of Tokyo while Tsukiji is rebuilt. After that, Tokyo will have two wholesale fish markets, Gov. Yuriko Koike said. Koike had halted the planned move to Toyosu last August, just months before the new market's scheduled opening, after food safety concerns were raised. Toxins have been found in soil and groundwater at Toyosu, which was previously the site of a gas plant. The initial plan was to sell the bayside Tsukiji property after the move, possibly for a shopping mall or casino.

### Officials: Pakistan shoots down Iranian drone near border

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistani officials say an air force fighter jet has shot down an unmanned Iranian drone in its southwestern Baluchistan province. Both officials Tuesday said the unmanned aircraft was shot down over the weekend and was deen inside Pakistani airspace. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to media. The Pakistani Air Force declined to comment on the matter. Iran, in recent months, has expressed concern over militants operating along the Pakistani border. Iran's army chief recently warned that the country was willing to strike militants inside Pakistan—remarks that drew a strong protest from Islamabad.

Military spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said the gunmen targeted an army outpost and a patrol base of pro-government militiamen, who fired back and were later reinforced by army troops. The attackers apparently were withdrawing, Padilla said.

He said it was possible the attack was intended to disrupt an ongoing military offensive against a separate group of militants aligned with the Islamic State group who laid siege on Marawi city. Some commanders of the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters have also pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group like the militants fighting in Marawi, which is located in Lanao del Sur province.

"If this is a diversionary move, it's not the first by these BIFF gunmen," Padilla said. "They have tried to attack more than once and all have been thwarted."

Last month, about 500 militants laid siege on Marawi, a mosque-dotted center of the Islamic faith in the country's south, after a failed attempt by government forces to capture a top militant suspect. Philippine troops, backed by airstrikes and artillery, remain involved in the offensive to

Government troops secure a village and search for Muslim militants after villagers thwarted an attempt by militants to blow up a bridge last week as fighting enters its second week in Marawi, southern Philippines Tuesday, May 30, 2017.

wrest back control of villages and the business district. At least 258 militants, 65 soldiers and policemen and 26 civilians have been killed.

The U.S. military in recent weeks deployed a P3 Orion aircraft to provide surveillance and intelligence to troops battling more than 100 gunmen holding an unspecified number of hostages in four remaining Marawi villages. President Rodrigo Duterte, despite having an antagonistic stance toward U.S. security policies, has acknowledged the U.S. assistance is helping save lives, as he faces his most serious crisis in his yearlong presidency.

Duterte has said politicians, including some linked to the illegal drug trade, may have covertly backed the militants, who stockpiled arms and supplies before launching their audacious plot in Marawi. The attack has sparked fears that the Islamic State group, while losing territory in Syria and Iraq, may be gaining a foothold in Southeast Asia by supporting local militants with money, training and weapons.

### India's shopkeepers scramble before tax changes take effect

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—The daily bustle of tourists and shoppers has died down in an upscale market of central New Delhi, but one toy shop owner is still busy poring over the new Indian tax rules that take effect next month.

The new tax regime—replacing the messy mix of state and federal taxes built up over seven decades of Indian commerce—will affect the final price on every board game and baseball bat on sale in Sanjiv Mehra's cramped shop in Khan Market. The government promises that the transition to a single, nationwide tax on goods and services will streamline business and boost the economy.

Mehra is just trying to figure out how it will all work.

"This is such a major tax reform, but there has been little effort to explain how it works to the traders," Mehra said while he and his son sorted through piles of invoices, receipts and price lists, trying to decide how each item should be taxed under the new system. The government published lists last month for how almost every item on sale in India, from shampoo to tea to automobiles, should be taxed within four broad categories—at rates of 5 percent, 12 percent, 18 percent or 28 percent. It had already ordered all businesses in January to adopt or upgrade cash registers and computer systems so they are able to file tax returns that comply with the new tax regime.

For millions of tiny neighborhood shops that often don't even use a calculator, this technology leap seems nearly impossible, and many hoped the July 1 rollout date would be delayed.

"It's a tough time for small traders like us," the gray-haired Mehra said. "The government says we should all become computer savvy. Then give us the time to do so."

Big businesses are also worried they'll take a hit. Those producing goods to be taxed in the highest, 28 percent bracket—including sodas, shampoos and household ap-

pliances—have argued that the new categories are unfair.

"This increase will have a negative ripple effect and hurt the entire ecosystem of farmers, retailers, distributors and bottlers in India," the Indian Beverage Association said in a statement last month.

Unbranded food staples including vegetables, milk, eggs and flour will be exempt from sales tax, along with health and education services. Tea, edible oils, sugar, textiles and baby formula will attract a 5 percent tax.

Luxury items including motorcycles, perfume and shampoo will be taxed at 18 percent or higher. They account for about 19 percent of all taxable items.

India's sales tax reform has been a long time coming.

First proposed in 2003, the idea was bogged down for years in bipartisan debate, with various governments trying to push it forward while opposition politicians dragged it back. Before Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bharatya Janata Party came

to power three years ago, they were staunchly against the move

Now, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and others in Modi's government are promising it will boost the economy by a full 2 percent by making taxation more efficient and bringing small traders into the mainstream economy.

Jaitley has acknowledged that there may be "teething troubles" with many businesses as well as state governments still scrambling to get ready. But he assured that the effort would eventually help reduce rampant tax evasion.

Overall, financial analysts agreed. Applying uniform sales taxes should draw more revenue without singling out any classes or sections of society. Only 12.5 million Indians—or 1 percent of the population—pay income taxes. Many evade taxes by hiding profits within antiquated accounting systems, while hundreds of millions are simply too poor and don't earn enough to qualify as income tax payers.

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### World

### Saudi king upends royal succession, names son as 1st heir

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP)—Saudi Arabia's King Salman on Wednesday appointed his 31-year-old son Mohammed bin Salman as crown prince, placing him first-in-line to the throne and removing the country's counterterrorism czar and a figure well-known to Washington from the line of succession.

In a series of royal decrees carried on the state-run Saudi Press Agency, the monarch stripped Prince Mohammed bin Nayef from his title as crown prince and from his powerful position as the country's interior minister overseeing security.

The all-but-certain takeover of the throne by Mohammed bin Salman awards near absolute powers to a prince who has ruled out dialogue with rival Iran, has moved to isolate neighboring Qatar for its support of Islamist groups and who has led a devastating war in Yemen that has killed thousands of civilians.

The prince already oversees a vast portfolio as defense minister. He has become popular among some of Saudi Arabia's majority young population for pushing reforms that have opened the deeply conservative country to entertainment and greater foreign investment as part of an effort to overhaul the economy.

He had previously been second-in-line to the throne as deputy crown prince, though royal watchers had long suspected his rise to power under his father's reign might accelerate his ascension.

The young prince was little known to Saudis and outsiders before Salman became king in January 2015. He had previously been in charge of his father's royal court when Salman was the crown prince.

The Saudi monarch, who holds near absolute powers, quickly awarded his son expansive powers to the surprise of many within the royal family who are more senior and more experienced than Mohammed bin Salman, also known by his initials MBS.

Meanwhile, Prince Abdulaziz bin Saud, 33, was named the new interior minister tasked with counterterrorism efforts and domestic security. His father is the governor of Saudi Arabia's vast Eastern Province, home to much of the country's oil wealth and most of its minority Shiites. The prince is also Mohammed bin Nayef's nephew, and previously served as an adviser to the interior and defense ministries.

The royal decree issued Wednesday stated that "a majority" of senior royal members from the so-called Allegiance Council support the recasting of the line of succession. However, that vote of support appears to have been from a past gathering of the council two years ago when Mohammed



bin Salman was named secondin-line to the throne, and Mohammed bin Nayef was named the king's successor.

The Allegiance Council is a body made up of the sons and prominent grandsons of the founder of the Saudi state, the late King Abdul-Aziz, who vote to pick the king and crown prince from among themselves. The council does not appear to have met again before Wednesday's sudden change.

Over the weekend, the king had issued a decree restructur-

> The prince had appeared to be slipping from public eye and was not believed to have played a significant role in Saudi and Emirati-led efforts to isolate Qatar for its support of Islamist groups and ties with Iran.

Instead, it was his nephew, Mohammed bin Salman, who

ing Saudi Arabia's system for

prosecutions that stripped Mo-

hammed bin Nayef of long-

standing powers overseeing

criminal investigations, and

instead ordered that a newly-

named Office of Public Pros-

ecution and prosecutor report

directly to the monarch.

In this May 14, 2012 file photo, Prince Mohammed bin Salman waits for Gulf Arab leaders ahead of the opening of Gulf Cooperation Council summit, in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

embarked on major overseas visits, including a trip to the White House to meet President Donald Trump in March. That visit to Washington helped lay the foundation for Trump's visit to Saudi Arabia in May, which marked the president's first overseas visit and which was promoted heavily by the kingdom as proof of its weight in the region and wider Muslim world.

Saudi-U.S. relations had cooled under the Obama administration after Washington pursued a nuclear accord with Shiite-majority Iran that the Sunni-ruled kingdom strongly opposed.

The warm ties forged between Riyadh and Washington under the Trump administration may have helped accelerate Mohammed bin Salman's ascension as crown prince.

Despite his ambitions, which include overhauling the economy to make it less reliant on oil, the prince has faced failures and criticism for the Saudi-led war in Yemen, which he oversees as defense minister.

The war, launched more than two years ago, has failed to dislodge Iranian-allied rebels known as Houthis from the capital, Sanaa, and has had devastating effects on the impoverished country. Rights groups say Saudi forces have killed scores of civilians and have called on the U.S., as well as the U.K. and France, to halt the sale of weapons to Saudi Arabia that could be used in the Yemen war.

### London copes with deep divisions after attacks, tower fire

**LONDON** (AP)—The cars still zip over London Bridge at their typical fast clip, drawing little obvious attention.

But some pedestrians walking the bridge over the River Thames each day say they find themselves glancing at the passing traffic and wondering: Is that the one? Is that the one that's going to swerve my way? The one whose driver wants to kill me for reasons I'll never quite grasp?

"Of course I do think about it every day," said 55-year-old Phil Bradley, who notes with approval that police have installed extra barriers since the June 3 attack when three Islamic extremists slammed a van into pedestrians on the bridge then went on a stabbing rampage in nearby Borough Market, killing a total of eight people. "But you have to keep it in perspective."

Londoners tend to take their city for granted-until something goes terribly wrong. When the great city is ticking along, its residents barely notice its unique cosmopolitan blend, its seemingly effortless mix of

dozens of different cultures. But when the city's multi-ethnic personality is under threat, as it is now, people are uneasy, but also proud and protective, determined not to change their routines or their outlook.

The city has endured three deadly Islamic extremist attacks in the last three months alone. And the pace of horrific events has quickened: In the last week, London's worst fire in decades claimed at least 79 lives and a group of Muslims leaving prayers marking the holy month of Ramadan were intentionally run down by a man in a van.

The city—and the country seem divided: Between rich and poor, Muslim and non-Muslim, between those who welcome outsiders and those who fear them. Signs of division are everywhere—the general election in early June did not produce a clear majority for any party, leaving the makeup of the next government unclear.

Still, London retains much of its imperial grace: The West End theaters are full, the pubs and restaurants are jammed

with people enjoying the long lingering light of balmy summer nights. But Britain has suffered a traumatic year of political change and unrest since the momentous vote one year ago to leave the European Union.

It seems the veil of civility

has been lifted, and what lies beneath is not pretty. Britain, which perceives itself as a beacon of stability, seems at time to be coming unstuck, increasingly vulnerable to conflicts that have their roots abroad but are being felt at home.

the explosion was limited. The attack, which took place during a rare heatwave in Belgian media had reported Belgium, came around 8.30

> rush hour had dissipated. Nicolas Van Herreweghen, who works for Belgium's national rail company, said the male suspect was very agitated, yelling about jihadists and then "Allahu akbar," Arabic for "God is great," before blowing up something on a baggage trolley.

p.m., well after the evening

He said the man appeared to be 30 to 35 years of age.

owns Belgium's railways was warned by a train driver who saw people running across the rail lines inside the station, spokesman Arnaud Reymann told broadcaster RTL.

National newspaper La Libre Belgique quoted the prosecutor's office as saying the suspect was wearing a backpack and an explosive belt. The information could not be immediately confirmed. Photos posted on social media showed a small fire in the station.

The Central Station is one of the busiest in the nation and soldiers could be seen patrolling there after the explosion. It was evacuated along with the Belgian capital's Grand Place, a major tourist site about 200 meters (656 feet) away.

### Brussels train station blast being treated as terror attack

BRUSSELS (AP)—Belgian authorities said they foiled a "terror attack" Tuesday when soldiers shot and killed a suspect after a small explosion earlier that the suspect was at a busy Brussels train sta- wearing a bomb belt. tion that continued a week of attacks in the capitals of Europe.

Federal prosecutor Eric Van der Sypt said soldiers "neutralized" a male suspect at the Central Station immediately after the explosion there on Tuesday night. The man lay still for several hours while a bomb squad checked whether he was armed with more explosives.

Prosecutor's spokeswoman Ine Van Wymersch confirmed

Belgium's Crisis Center, which monitors security threats in the country, said based on initial information it did not see a need to raise the

his death early Wednesday

and said no other explosives

were found on his body. Some

country's terror threat to the highest level and kept it at the second-highest level. Authorities set up a wide perimeter around the station, located near the city's famed

Grand Place square. Van der Sypt said no one else was injured besides the suspect and the damage from The government agency that

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### Environment

### Forever green: Cemeteries make more room for natural burials



In this May 24, 2017, photo, Mary Lauren Fraser stands beside a casket she hand-wove from willow, in Montague, Mass. Fraser sells biodegradable, hand-woven urns and caskets for use in green burials. Green burials can save consumers money, and have nurtured a market for biodegradable urns and coffins.

By MICHAEL HILL ASSOCIATED PRESS

### RHINEBECK, N.Y. (AP)—

Last goodbyes are said in these woods with wildflowers placed on a shrouded body, or with the beloved wrapped in a favorite childhood blanket. Dirt shoveled back into the graves leaves behind slowly sinking mounds of earth on the forest floor, marked with stones.

"Green burials" like these at Rhinebeck Cemetery in New York's Hudson Valley shun coffins, embalming fluid and concrete "vaults" so everything in the ground decomposes. It's a movement that goes back more than a decade, but advocates say public attention has increased in recent years, with more cemeteries tweaking practices to accommodate people who want to tread lightly, even in death.

"I love the thing about just being wrapped up and going back to the ground," said 59-year-old Gina Walker Fox, who purchased a plot right by a tulip tree and wild berries she imagines her children picking on graveside visits. "And that seems to be a very easy way on the environment, and an easy way on the human body."

Green burials turn back the clock to the days before the Civil War, when embalming caught on as a way to preserve soldiers who died far from home. Burial vaults, which keep graves from collapsing and lawns level for mowing, became more widespread after World War II.

Advocates argue it's best to avoid introducing concrete vaults and potentially toxic embalming fluids into the ground. And unlike cremation, no fossil fuels are required to

the handmade products are in line with what consumers could pay for traditional urns and caskets, though they draw interesting looks when she puts them on display at local farmers' markets.

"I get all kinds of reactions," she said. "Way more people coming in and saying, 'Is that a coffin? Did you make that?

her \$200 urns and \$2,800 cas-

kets in her apartment in west-

ern Massachusetts. Costs for

Is green burial legal?"

While state laws vary on the treatment of bodies, green burial practices are legal across the nation, said Kate Kalanick of the Ojai, California-based Green Burial Council. The council, which certifies green practitioners, says unembalmed bodies are safe for a viewing before burial and do not pollute the soil.

For some customers, it's not about cost or the environment.

It's about what feels right during a difficult time.

After losing a stillborn daughter this year, Becky and Chris Mancuso looked to Vale Cemetery in Schenectady, where five generations of her family are buried. Chris Mancuso couldn't imagine chemically embalming his daughter, and the cemetery's new natural burial section fit in with his Christian faith that "unto dust shalt thou return."

He built a wooden burial box for Anna himself. Their 6-year-old daughter picked wood that was golden, like heaven.

"The main motivation was just trying to connect with my dead daughter, and in any way that I could do something for her, which my wife and I, neither of us had a chance to do that." Mancuso said. "That was very hard for us."

break down the body.

Of the thousands of cemeteries nationwide, there are maybe around 125 that now offer options for green burial, said Suzanne Kelly, Rhinebeck Cemetery committee chairwoman and author of "Greening Death." Many, like Rhinebeck 80 miles (128 kilometers) north of New York City, create natural burial grounds near the neatly ordered markers of their traditional plots.

In Vermont, a new law taking effect July 1 changes the minimum depth for burying bodies from 5 feet (1.5 meters) to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  (1 meter)—a depth advocates say is conducive to decomposition and safe from animals. Figuring out the best way to prepare shallower graves is just one question cemetery operators have as they seek to accommodate green burials.

"If they're in a shroud, are people going to understand that, first of all, that body could have an odor to it? There could be body fluid stains on the shroud. I don't know," said Patrick Healy, president of the Vermont Cemetery Association. "Right now, we're protected from that situation because they're always in a casket."

Alabama last year changed a law that restricted casket sales to licensed funeral directors after a lawsuit from a woman who wanted to sell biodegradable caskets for her eco-friendly burial ground.

Green burials can save people thousands of dollars in costs for a vault, a plush casket and a granite marker. But they also have nurtured a market for ecologically friendly products such as biodegradable cornstarch urns and wicker caskets.

Mary Lauren Fraser weaves



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# Life & Style

# Daniel Day-Lewis says he's retiring from acting

NEW YORK (AP)—Daniel Day-Lewis, one of the most widely respected actors of his generation and a three-time Oscar-winner, says he's retiring from acting.

The 60-year-old actor announced Tuesday that he has shot his last film and performed in his last play. That makes Paul Thomas Anderson's already filmed "Phantom Thread," due out in December, his final film.

"Daniel Day-Lewis will no longer be working as an actor," his representative Leslee Dart said in a statement. "He is immensely grateful to all of his collaborators and audiences over the many years. This is a private decision and neither

he nor his representatives will make any further comment on this subject."

The announcement sent shockwaves through Hollywood, where Day-Lewis is revered as possibly the finest actor of his time. But Day-Lewis has also long been an exceptionally deliberate performer who often spends years preparing for a role, crafting his characters with an uncommon, methodical completeness.

"I don't dismember a character into its component parts and then kind of bolt it all together, and off you go," Day-Lewis told the AP in 2012, discussing Steven Spielberg's "Lincoln." "I tend to try and allow things to happen slowly, over a long period of time. As I feel I'm growing into a sense of that life, if I'm lucky, I begin to hear a voice."

He has stepped away from film before. In the late 1990s. he famously apprenticed as a shoemaker in Florence, Italy—a period he called "semi-retirement." "Phantom Thread," which Focus Features will release Dec. 25, is his first film in five years, following "Lincoln."

A five-time Academy Award nominee, Day-Lewis is the only one to ever win best actor three times. He earned Oscars for "My Left Foot," "Lincoln" and "There Will Be Blood."

Day-Lewis, who is married to writer-director Rebecca Miller with three children, broke through with 1985's "My Beautiful Laundrette," by Stephen Frears. His films

since then have included "The Last of the Mohicans," "The Age of Innocence," "In the Name of the Father" and "Gangs of New York."

His last play was in 1989, a the stage again.

National Theatre production of "Hamlet," in London. Day-Lewis infamously walked out in the middle of a performance, and never returned to

### Angelina Jolie urges better treatment of refugees

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)— Actress and U.N. refugee agency special envoy Angelina Jolie on Tuesday denounced the impunity with which rape is committed in conflict zones and the mistreatment of vulnerable women and children.

Jolie spoke in Kenya to mark World Refugee Day. She visited a training center on how to prevent sexual violence in conflict and met with refugees from conflicts in Burundi, South Sudan, Somalia and Congo.

"The reality is that women and girls as well as boys and men can still be raped with near-total impunity in conflict zones around the world, and there are still appalling cases of rape and mistreatment of vulnerable women, children and men by peacekeepers sent to protect them," she said.

Jolie added: "The horror of sexual violence is compounded when it is carried out by someone in uniform who has a taken an oath to protect."



Actress Angelina Jolie speaks to the media after meeting with the British Peace Support Team for East Africa, at the International Peace Support Training Center in Nairobi, Kenya, Tuesday June

gees, the majority of who are women and children, is a measure of humanity, she said, according to a statement by the U.N. refugee agency.

"Not only have they had to flee extreme violence or persecution, lost everything and witnessed the death of family members, but they have also had to face so much abuse and intolerance and hardship. They are doing their best to carry on with minimal The way people treat refuse support, trying to live lives

Star Wars' Han Solo spinoff film loses directors

of dignity against impossible odds," Jolie said.

Kenya is home to nearly 491,000 refugees from conflicts in neighboring countries. A Kenvan court recently stopped the government from closing what had been the world's largest refugee camp, Dadaab, and sending more than 200,000 people back to Somalia. The court said the government had not proved Somalia is safe for refugees to return.

### Tony Bennett receives Gershwin prize from national library

WASHINGTON (AP)—Tony Bennett, the beloved and durable interpreter of American standards whose charttopping career spans seven decades, has been honored with this year's Gershwin Prize for Popular Song.

This Jan. 27, 2013, file photo, Daniel Day-Lewis arrives at the 19th An-

nual Screen Actors Guild Awards at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

The Library of Congress an-

nounced the award Tuesday. The lifetime achievement award named for the duo of George and Ira Gershwin was created by Congress to honor singers and songwriters who entertain, inform and inspire. Past recipi-

ents include Paul McCartney, Willie Nelson, Smokey Robinson and Stevie Wonder.

Bennett

Bennett, 90, gained his first pop success in the early 1950s with a string of singles for Columbia Records, including "Because of You" and "Rags to Riches." His 24 Top 40 hits included his signature song,

"I Left My Heart in San Francisco" (1962), which won two Grammy awards.

Bennett enjoyed a career revival in the 1990s and became popular with younger audiences in part because of an appearance on "MTV Unplugged." He continued record-

ing and touring constantly, and in 2014, collaboration with Lady Gaga, "Tony Bennett & Lady Gaga: Cheek to Cheek," debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard charts.

staying "His power is a testament to the enduring appeal of

the Great American Songbook the Gershwins helped write, and his ability to collaborate with new generations of music icons has been a gift to music lovers of all ages," Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden said in a statement.

Bennett recalled that one in November.

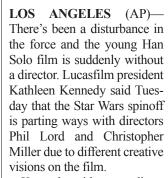
of his earliest recordings was "Fascinating Rhythm," a song by the Gershwins.

"To be receiving an award named in their honor is one of the greatest thrills of my career, and I am deeply appreciative to the Library of Congress to be named this year's recipient," Bennett said in a statement.

Born Anthony Thomas Benedetto in Queens, New York, in 1926, Bennett served in World War II, where he fought in the Battle of the Bulge and participated in the liberation of a concentration camp. He marched with the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. to support civil rights and has performed for 11 U.S. presidents.

He is also an accomplished painter whose work has been exhibited at galleries around the world.

Bennett is scheduled to accept the award in Washington



Kennedy said a new director would be announced soon.

Lord and Miller had been filming the untitled project in London since January 2017 with stars Alden Ehrenreich as the young Han Solo and Donald Glover as Lando Calrissian. The supporting cast includes Woody Harrelson, Emilia Clarke and Thandie Newton.

"Unfortunately, our vision and process weren't aligned with our partners on this project. We normally aren't fans of the phrase 'creative differences' but for once this cliché is true," the directors said in a joint statement Tuesday. "We are really proud of the amazing and world-class work of our cast and crew."

Lord and Miller have de-



In this Jan. 5, 2015, file photo, Christopher Miller, left, and Phil Lord pose for a photo at the New York Film Critics Circle Awards at TAO Downtown, in New York.

veloped a stellar reputation in anthology film after "Rogue Hollywood for their smart and profitable adaptations of creaky or impossible properties like "The Lego Movie" and "21 Jump Street" and its sequel. Anticipation was high for what they would do with the Han Solo film, which was written by Star Wars vet Lawrence Kasdan and his son Jon Kasdan.

Over the past six months the directors have been widely engaged on social media, drumming up interest in the project—the second Star Wars

One." The anthology films are considered separate from the "main trilogy," which includes "The Force Awakens" and the upcoming "The Last Jedi."

Lucasfilm has had issues with directors before. In 2015 the company parted ways with director Josh Trank, who had been working on another Star Wars anthology film. They have yet to slate a replacement director.

The untitled Han Solo film is still slated for a May 2018 release.

### Stars of 'Jumanji' sequel pay tribute to Robin Williams

Spain (AP)—Jack Black and Nick Jonas—two of the stars of the upcoming "Jumanji" sequel-

have paid tribute to the actor who led the original film—the late Robin Williams.

Describing Williams as a

### A 93-year-old author wins \$100,000 military writing award

NEW YORK (AP)—A 93-year-old author of books on European conflicts has won a \$100,000 prize for military writing.

Peter Paret is this year's winner of the Pritzker Literature Award for lifetime achievement, prize officials announced Tuesday. The award is given for "enriching the understanding" of military history. Paret's books include "Imagined Battles," "Understanding War" and numerous works on military theorist Carl von Clausewitz.

Previous winners include James McPherson, Tim O'Brien and Rick Atkinson. The prize is sponsored by the Pritzker Military Foundation.

### Chappelle to host Rihanna Diamond Ball; Kendrick to

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Dave Chappelle will host Rihanna's annual charity event in September and Kendrick Lamar will perform.

The singer's organization, The Clara Lionel Foundation, will hold its third Diamond Ball on Sept. 14 at Cipriani Wall Street in New York City.

Rihanna said in a statement Tuesday she's "thrilled that the incomparable Dave Chappelle will kick things off as the official host" and said Lamar, whom she has collaborated with, "will take the stage for an unforgettable performance."

Grammy-winning pop star founded The Clara Lionel Foundation in 2012 in honor of her grandparents Clara and Lionel Braithwaite. It promotes education and arts globally.

Past Diamond Ball participants include Brad Pitt, Kevin Hart and Lionel Richie.

### Police searching for \$40K violin left at train station

**BOSTON** (AP)—Authorities are seeking help identifying a woman who took a \$40,000 violin accidentally left behind by its owner at a Boston train station.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority police say the violin was lost June 10 at South Station.

Superintendent Richard Sullivan says the owner had been waiting for a train and put her stuff down. She forgot the instrument and jumped on the train, then later realized she didn't have it with her.

Police say another woman "took possession of the violin," and it hasn't yet been located.

Sullivan says police aren't seeking charges against the woman and just want her to return the violin. A picture of the woman is posted on the transit police department's

Actors Jack Black, left, and Nick Jonas pose to the media during a photocall to promote the film "Jumanji: Welcome to the jungle" in Barcelona, Spain, Sunday, June 18, 2017.

"sweet, sweet man," Black said the late actor would "love" the movie. "He had a great sense of adventure. ... It would have been amazing to work with him," he said Sunday at a press event for the film in Barcelona, Spain.

Williams, who died in 2014, starred in the original 1995 movie as Alan Parrish, who was trapped in a board game for 26 years. The new film, "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle," shows where Parrish was all that time.

Jonas was a late addition to the cast and his character is yet to be revealed. He said it was important to the cast to "pay

it's about trying to tell the story in a new and exciting way. And hopefully he would have liked it," he said.

justice" to Williams. "I think

In the sequel, the board game from the original movie has been reimagined

as a vintage video game, into which four teenagers are drawn. The teens become their video game avatars—played by Dwayne Johnson, Kevin Hart, Karen Gillan and Black.

"Twenty years have passed

and obviously we have better special effects and a bigger budget. That's why we were able to go into the jungles of Jumanji," said Black.

"Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" will be released in December.



### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### **Philadelphia Orchestra** president, **CEO** to step down PHILADELPHIA (AP)—

The president and chief executive officer of the Philadelphia Orchestra has announced that she is leaving when her contract expires at the end of the year. Allison Vulgamore said Tuesday that she didn't make the decision "easily or lightly" but believes the timing is right. Vulgamore, who has been with the orchestra for eight years, says the orchestra is on "significantly more solid footing, both artistically and financially" and "well positioned for positive, continuing evolution." She tells The Philadelphia Inquirer that the next president "will need to raise the endowment that I very much

feel needs to happen for this institution." Board chairman Richard Worley says a search committee will be named, but interim leadership may be required depending on the timing and the availability of the next president.

#### **New Chris Cornell** music video, filmed before death, released

NEW YORK (AP)—Chris Cornell's final music video, filmed before the singer died in May, was released Tuesday. The video for "The Promise" was released to coincide with World Refugee Day. The clip was filmed in Brooklyn, New York. Eric Esrailian, who produced the video, said Cornell filmed the video shortly before he died. Esrailian added

that the rock singer wanted the video to be released on World Refugee Day. Cornell and his family toured refugee camps in Greece in April, and there they decided that The Chris and Vicky Cornell Foundation would focus its efforts on child refugees. Cornell was the lead singer of Soundgarden and Audioslave. Authorities say he killed himself following a concert in Detroit. He was 52.

#### **Bill Cosby judge to** rule Wednesday on releasing juror names NORRISTOWN,

(AP)—The judge who presided over Bill Cosby's sexual assault trial will decide Wednesday whether to identify jurors who deadlocked in the case after a week of deliberations. Judge Steven

O'Neill fears there would be a chilling effect on jurors needed for Cosby's retrial if the first jury discusses the deliberations with the media. Lawyers for several media outlets argued at a hearing Tuesday that jurors' names should almost always be public to ensure transparency in the judicial process. Lawyer Eli Segal, arguing on behalf of the Philadelphia Media Network and other outlets, said jurors should be free to discuss their backgrounds, the sequestration process and their individual views, even if—under O'Neill's order in the case-they do not disclose the jury split or other jurors' comments. "This is a critical part of the justice system," Segal argued. "We are entitled to them."

### Girlfriend deserves to know about man's abusive past

EAR ABBY: My brother is in a long-term relationship. Throughout my teenage years, he raped me every chance he got. The emotional and physical abuse has left my life broken. Should I tell his girlfriend about it? I did confront him about it, but he just denied it. Wouldn't she want to know?

SURVIVOR IN FLORIDA

DEAR SURVIVOR: Yes, you should tell his girlfriend about it! You should also tell every one of your relatives. Where were your parents when this was going on?

While it may be too late for the police to haul your brother off to prison, you should absolutely talk to a rape crisis counselor about what he did to you. To locate a resource near you, contact R.A.I.N.N. (rainn.org), the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network. It may be able to help you put your life in order. Its toll-free phone number is 800-656-4673.

**DEAR ABBY:** Would you please remind your readers about proper service dog etiquette? My service dog has given me a new lease on life, but going out in public with him can be a huge source of anxiety. If your readers see a service dog in public, they should remember:

Don't pet the dog, or talk to it, and don't allow children to "rush" the dog. This distracts the service dog from its important job and could put a handler in danger.

Please don't question whether service dogs are or should be "allowed" somewhere. Handlers need to shop, take public transport and go to restaurants just like everyone else.

Do not ask invasive personal questions about the handler's health or abilities. I'm sure you wouldn't want a stranger prying into your own medical history.

And please don't gush about how "lucky" someone is to have a service dog or how you wish you could have your pet with you. Try mentally replacing the word "dog" with "wheelchair" or "oxygen tank" before you speak. Service dogs are not pets. For a lot of people they are lifelines.

Many of us are happy to speak with you about our dogs or answer questions, but please remember we are also PEOPLE with individual comfort levels and limits, and we just want to enjoy public spaces like everyone else.

NEW LEASE ON LIFE

DEAR NEW LEASE: Thank you for giving me the chance to remind readers about service dog etiquette. Many of us are animal lovers who have a hard time resist-

### DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby com or PO Box 69440 Los Angeles CA 90069.



ing the impulse to reach out when we see service dogs. It's done with the best of intentions, while forgetting that a dog wearing a vest may be working. I say "may" because, unfortunately, service vests that allow animals to be present in markets and restaurants can be ordered online by people with no disability at all.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

**22** THURSDAY JUNE 22, 2017 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

### **Pastimes**

### Calvin and Hobbes



YOU'LL LOOK BACK AND SAY. WHERE HAS THE TIME GONE! CALVIN'S SO BIG. IT'S HARD LACHIN'S SO BIS. 11'S HAKEN TO RENEMBER WHEN HE WAS SMALL ENOUGH THAT I COXID GIVE HIM HORSEY RIDES." ...BUT THOSE DAYS WILL BE LOST FOREVER.



### By Bill Waterson



### **Garfield**<sub>®</sub>







### Adam@home

### By Bryan Basset

### The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

By Jim Davis



18 Villain

22 Very

20 Troubles

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fashion

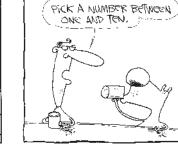
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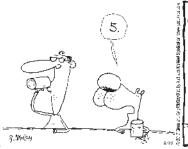
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### By Eugene Sheffer **CROSSWORD**

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Geller

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For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King STUMPED?

Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Carson Daly, 44; Cyndi Lauper, 64; Meryl Streep, 68; Todd Rundgren, 69.

Happy Birthday: Look at your life from a distance and size up what's going well and what isn't. You can make changes if you put your mind to it, so don't wallow in negativity or a defeatist attitude before you even begin. If you are prudent, you can make alterations that are unique and will have an impact mentally, physically and financially. Your numbers are 2, 8, 17, 25, 28, 33, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Observe, assess and think twice before you say something you may regret. You can bring about changes, but before doing so, make sure you have the approval of anyone who will be affected by the choices you make. **QQQQ** 

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your appeal will grow if you are willing to try new things and share your experiences with others. An honest look at your current situation will make it easier for you to come up with a solid solution.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Your emotions are likely to take you down a slippery slope if you let them interfere in the way you handle things. Pour your energy into something that will bring improvements to your lifestyle and your important relationships. •••

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look at alternate routes when it comes to minivacations, educational pursuits and communicating with others. If you take a different approach, you will attract greater interest in what you are trying to do. Use your intelligence, not pressure. OOO

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your open approach to helping others will make people gravitate toward you. Expand your own interests by helping people who have experience in an area that you want to find out more about. Your steady progress will lead to positive feedback. 2000

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Refuse to let an emotional matter take over. Separate your personal and business dealings to

avoid any confusion or inability to take care of your responsibilities. Work hard at finishing what you start. Self-improvement will pay off. 🗪 LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen care-

fully, but don't react. Manipulation on your part or by someone you are dealing with will only make matters worse. Choose to be honest and expect the same in return. Have your facts ready before airing your differences. 00000

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can offer to help someone, but not at the expense of neglecting your own responsibilities or by paying for someone else's mistake. Stick to the truth and only do what you feel is honorable, 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Consider what's being said and where the information is coming from before

you make a comment. Go about your business and take care of your responsibilities instead of getting involved in someone else's affairs. •••

Sudoku is a number-placing

puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with

several given numbers. The

object is to place the numbers

1 to 9 in the empty squares so

that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday

**EUGENIA** 

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY



COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

pass. A one-on-one romantic encounter is favored. 🛇 🗘 🗘 AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make the most of whatever situation you find yourself in and others

will cost. Pick and choose your friends care-

fully. If someone is a poor influence, take a

You'll be in the mood to have fun, but

before you cut loose, consider what it

will gravitate to your side. Opportunity is knocking, and the chance to get ahead looks promising. Home improvements are favored. 00000 PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Emo-

tional matters will catch you off guard. Take an intellectual approach to adversity and you will be able to avoid unreasonable demands. A unique approach to offering affection and compliments should suffice for now.

Eugenia's websites — eugenialast.com for Ask Eugenia, daily timing and compatibility services, and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

Conceptis Sudoku

Difficulty Level ★★★

By Dave Green

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Yesterday's Answer

to Saturday.

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©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

#### Wonderword OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ELJE WIESEL (1928-2016) Solution: 12 letters

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© 2017 Andrews McMeel Syndical on III www.wonderword.com									6	/22				

Accident, Activist, Advocate, Author, Beatrice, Books, Case, Chapman, Dawn, Eliezer, English, Erster, Feig, France, Hilda, Honors, Hope, Literature, Manhattan, Marion, Memoir, New York, NGO Monitor, Night, Nobel, Novel, Oath, Religion, Bomania, Rose, Sages, Sarah, Shlomo, Sonderberg, Sorbonne, Testament, Trial, Tzipora, Writer, Yiddish Yesterday's Answer: Superheroine

o purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, (Contains 100 puzzles,

#### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: (2) Mechanical Engineers

**Job Description:** Troubleshooting and repair of power automatic transfer switches, generators and engines; Operate 24-hour prime power facilities for commercial facilities; Install new generators and transfer switches; Install new electronic controls for generator sets ranging in size from 10-2000 kilowatts; Perform top and major overhaul of Caterpillar, Kohler, Onan, Cummins and Perkins diesel engines; Maintain, operate and repair osmosis water facility.

Minimum Qualifications: With a college degree of Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and at least 3 years of relevant work experience in mechanical engineering works involving power generation and heavy equipment.

Job Site: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

How to Apply: Submit a professional resume to:

#### ELLIOTT SYSTEMS, LLC

Office Address: Capitol Hills, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5568, Saipan, MP 96950

#### **TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION**

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) hereby gives notice that it will hold its Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 29, 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the TCGCC Hearing Room

### AGENDA

- PRELIMINARY
  - a. Call to Order
  - b. Roll Call
  - Adoption of Agenda d. Adoption of Minutes
  - 1) November 21, 2013 2) May 26, 2017

[with continuation on May 30, 20171

III. REPORTS Chair's Report

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS<sup>1</sup>

- b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- **NEW BUSINESS** ٧.
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE **MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is

written comments.

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Commission may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: Senior Auditor

Job Description: Examines and analyzes accounting records to determine financial status of establishments; Reviews data regarding material assets, net worth, liabilities, capital stock, surplus, income, and expenditures; Inspects items in books of original entry to determine if accepted accounting procedures were followed in recording transactions; Evaluates results of audit procedures performed and determines the appropriate courses of action in response to audit issues and potential findings; Prepares report for management concerning scope of audits, financial conditions found and source and application of funds;

Minimum Qualifications: With a college degree in Accounting and at least 10 years of relevant work experience in auditing works.

Job Site: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

How to Apply: Submit a professional resume to:

BURGER & COMER. P.C.

Office Address: Suite 203, MHII Building, Marina Heights, Business Park, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 504053 Saipan, MP 96950



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514



### **JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

(This ad is paid for by NMHC.)

OPENING DATE: JUNE 1, 2017 **CLOSING DATE: JUNE 30, 2017** TIME: 4:30 PM

SALARY AT \$60,000.00 - \$70,000.00 UNGRADED (Commensurate with education and experience)

#### "CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER"

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

JESSE S. PALACIOS Corporate Director

### *JOB VACANCY* ANNOUNCEMENT

O'Connor Berman Dotts & Banes ite 201, Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe P.O. Box 501969, Saipan, MP 96950

### **Associate Attorney**

Job Duties: at the direction of partners or senior attorneys, attend court hearings and trials and argue on behalf of clients in all of the courts of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, advise clients on, and handle, transactions (in particular, due diligence and closing for real estate transactions), corporate legal processes (e.g., incorporation. licensing/permitting, zoning) and litigation cases, supervise paralegals and other office staffs (including accounting and secretarial staff); interpret laws, rulings and regulations, and identify implications for cases handled by the office for review by partners or senior attorneys; conduct and defend depositions, draft legal documents (e.g., transaction agreements and court papers including motions, memorandum of law and briefs) for review by partners or senior attorneys; and, perform duties related to the above as to specific assignments required by partners or senior attorneys.

Job Site: Saipan

Applicants must be licensed to practice law in the CNMI in the private sector. Interested applicants should report or send nes to us. Our office is located at Suite 201, Marianas Business Plaza, Susupe, Saipan. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 501969, Saipan, MP 96950, and our email is cnmi@pacificlawyers.law.

### THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS **BAR ASSOCIATION**

Is currently recruiting for an

### **Executive Director**

The Northern Mariana Islands Bar Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the standards of the legal profession in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Executive Director must be an individual who is a self-starter who is comfortable working under little or no supervision and who independently will meet the daily goals and objectives of the Bar. A candidate must be very detail oriented and computer literate (MS Office and particularly Excel). Trustworthiness, reliability and excellent customer-service skills are a must for this position. The ideal candidate must have at least five (5) years administrative experience; at least a two-year college degree or a business college certificate of proficiency; proficiency in the English language; accounting and bookkeeping. Various tasks range from overall office operations such as keeping financial accounts; dues collection; expense payments; various coordination of meetings, programs and projects; representation of the Bar at functions; and any other duties and responsibilities as assigned by the Bar

**Salary:** Part-time for one year, commensurate with experience. Application procedure: Send CV, cover letter, and three references via email to: cnmibar@pticom.com or via fax to 235-4528. *Final Day to Receive Application:* Friday, June 30, 2017

### **Sky Chefs**

LSG SKY CHEFS is looking to hire qualified U.S. workers for the following positions:

### **Operations Supervisor (1)**

- Graduated from a recognized college or university with an Associate's or Bachelor's Degree in public or business administration or closely related field.
- Three to four years of professional and managerial experience in hotel operational activities; airport operational activities; or airline catering activities; or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the preferable knowledge, abilities and skills.
- Have knowledge of business practices and procedures;
- Knowledge of market trends in support adjacent markets.
- Must be proficient in the use of the English language (written and oral)
- Must be computer literate and proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel)
- · Good communication skills with acceptable telephone manner.
- Good organizational skills.
- Able to make independent, well thought out decisions.
- Must be a US Citizen with US Passport;
- · Must be dependable and flexible.

Applications are available at the Main Office located on airport road, situated between American Red Cross Office and Historic Preservation Office, or send resume to rita.taitano@lsgskychefs.com. Deadline for submission is Monday, March 27, 2017.

#### WHATZIT Solution: Damsel in distress

Dream Plant Action dba DPA Car Mart has a job opening for SALES ASSOCIATE at least H.S. graduate, no experience required but willing to be trained. Highly motivated person with sense of responsibility and commitment to work. Must know how to drive. We encourage "U.S.

> Please submit application at DPA Car Mart, San Antonio Tel. 235-8688 "WE BUY & SELL USED CARS"

#### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Position: Senior Accountant

Job Description: Analyze Financial Information and Prepare Income Statements, Cash Flows and Balance Sheet and Maintain Record of Assets and liabilities; Prepares Individual and Corporate Tax Returns.

Minimum Qualifications: With a college degree in Accounting and at least 10 years of relevant work experience in accounting works.

Job Site: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

How to Apply: Submit a professional resume to:

#### **BURGER & COMER, P.C.**

Office Address: Suite 203, MHII Building, Marina Heights, Business Park, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

> Mailing Address: P.O. Box 504053 Saipan, MP 96950

Coca Cola Consens.

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**AC** Technician

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(PRINT AND ONLINE)

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**Store Manager** 

Supervisor

**Sandwich Artist Trainee** 

**Building Maintenance** Repairer

**Administrative Assistant** 

#### AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

You may apply in person or submit resume at **Human Resources Department** 

2nd Floor Transpacenter Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan \*\*No phone call, please\*

### **CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

#### **CLASSIFIED LINER ADS**

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below. ADS COMBO

\$15 5-Liner

### **ADVERTISING DEADLINE**

**Classified Ads** 

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### **CANCELLATION Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

### Hawks send center Dwight Howard to Hornets

ATLANTA (AP)— Dwight Howard's Atlanta homecoming was short-lived.

The Hawks sent Howard and the No. 31 overall pick

in Thursday's NBA draft to Charlotte for center Miles Plumlee, shooting guard Marco Belinelli and the 41st pick, getting the deal completed late Tuesday night.

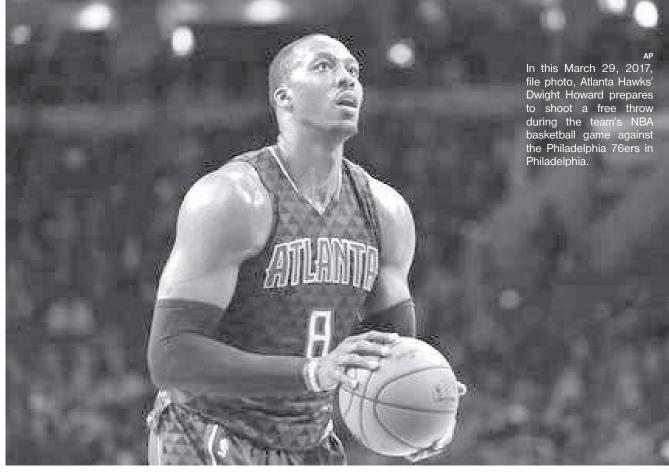
Howard, an eight-time All-Star and three-time NBA Defensive Player of the Year, will be playing for his third team in three seasons following a disappointing one-year return to his Atlanta hometown.

"We are excited to add a player of Dwight's stature to our roster," Charlotte general manager Rich Cho said.

"He has been a very talented player, an elite rebounder and rim protector as well as a physical presence since the moment he entered the league. Howard's best seasons came alongside coach Steve Clifford and we believe their familiarity will make an immediate impact for the Hornets this upcoming season."

Clifford was an assistant with Orlando and the Los Angeles Lakers during Howard's stints with those teams.

"I'm excited about working with Dwight again," Clifford said. "He brings a defensive mindset, shot blocking ability and a level of physicality that will be a huge asset for us. We look forward to him continuing



his career here in Charlotte."

Howard signed a three-year, \$70.5 million deal with Atlanta and then sat out the fourth quarter in two of six playoff games in the Hawks' firstround loss to Washington.

Howard's averages with the Hawks - 13.5 points and 12.7 rebounds - were close to his production in his last of three seasons with Houston in 2015-16. Still, he finished the season unhappy about his diminished

role in the playoffs, when he averaged eight points and 10.7 rebounds.

"It was very difficult. I want to play," Howard said after the season. "I want to be on the floor. I want to make an impact. You can't do it on the bench."

The Hawks were eliminated in the first round for the first time since 2014. Following the season, coach Mike Budenholzer resigned his additional role as president of basketball operations and Wes Wilcox stepped down as general manager.

The Howard trade is the first deal for new Hawks GM Travis Schlenk, who faces the difficult challenge of re-signing free-agent forward Paul Mill-

"It is extremely important for our organization that we maintain our flexibility and this trade helps us achieve that critical goal," Schlenk said.

"We appreciate the contributions that Dwight made on the

Howard, 31, is due to earn \$23.5 million each of the next two seasons.

court and in the greater Atlanta

community this past season."

Plumlee, 28, still has three years remaining on his contract at \$12.5 million per season. Belinelli, 31, is set to earn \$6.6 million in the final year of his deal.

Michael Jordan's Hornets have been attempting to land a star player for quite some time and Howard potentially gives them that if he can return to playing at a high level.

Point guard Kemba Walker has developed into an All-Star, but Nicolas Batum struggled last season after being handed a \$120 million, five-year contract—the largest ever given to a Hornets player.

The trade also satisfies the Hornets' search for a true center since losing Al Jefferson to free agency last summer. They had hoped that Roy Hibbert would fill the role of a rim protector, but injuries slowed him down and he was eventually traded to Milwaukee in a midseason deal that brought Plumlee to Charlotte.

Plumlee wasn't much of a contributor last season for Charlotte and he was beset by

The Hornets traded away their first-round draft pick in 2016 to acquire Belinelli after losing Courtney Lee and Jeremy Lin in free agency. Belinelli played in 74 games last season and averaged 10.5 points per game on 42.9 percent shooting.

### What offseason? A week after Finals, the NBA in overdrive

By TIM REYNOLDS AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Dwight Howard and Brook Lopez are on the move. Dwyane Wade is opting in. Pau Gasol is opting out. The Los Angeles Lakers provided the clearest indication yet that Lonzo Ball is their guy.

The NBA offseason is already in overdrive.

A dizzying series of moves came on Tuesday. Howard got traded by the Atlanta Hawks to the Charlotte Hornets, who acquired the eight-time All-Star center for a package that included Miles Plumlee and Marco Belinelli.

And Lopez-another center—is leaving Brooklyn and headed to the Lakers, part of a deal that has D'Angelo Russell and Timofey Mozgov going to the Nets.

That leaves the Lakers with a clear need at point guard, a problem they will likely rectify on Thursday when they presumably will take Ball with the No. 2 pick in the NBA Draft. It was a big move for the Lakers in another way; Mozgov is still owed \$48 million over the next three seasons, while Lopez's contract will expire after next season.

Howard will be playing for his third team in three seasons following a disappointing homecoming in Atlanta. He signed a three-year, \$70.5 million deal with Atlanta and then sat out the fourth quarter in two of six playoff games in the Hawks' first-round loss to Washington.

"Let the madness begin," Portland guard CJ McCollum said. "Draft week is always the most interesting time of

Madness is right.

Barely a week after the Golden State Warriors won their second NBA championship in three years, the rest of the league is maneuvering like mad.

Along with the trades, confirmed by people with direct knowledge who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because neither deal was formally announced, Gasol opted out of his \$16 million deal for next season with San Antonio - but intends to sign a new multiyear deal with the Spurs that will reduce his annual salary but give him more security, and presumably

give his team a chance to add a big-time free agent this summer. Wade told the Bulls he will take his \$23.8 million deal for next season, a decision he had until next week to make.

And Minnesota parted ways with Nikola Pekovic, waiving him in what could be the last act of a career that was derailed by foot and ankle problems over the past three seasons. Pekovic missed all of last season and played only 12 games the previous season.

All this comes with Paul George's status in Indiana most uncertain and with many trade rumors swirling there, the belief by many across the league that Jerry West joining the Clippers front office could help their pursuit of LeBron James in the summer of 2018, and the ongoing watch in New York of what the Knicks will do-if anything-with Carmelo Anthony and Kristaps Porzingis.

It's not like Monday was a slow day, either.

That was when Philadelphia and Boston completed the deal that sent the No. 1 overall pick to the 76ers—giving them the chance to take Markelle Fultz, and allowing the Celtics to

choose likely either Jayson Tatum or Josh Jackson at No. 3, which they got in the swap. The Celtics said they think the player they take at No. 3 would likely have been the player they used the No. 1 pick on anyway, so they called it a win-win move.

Then came Monday night's news that the Cleveland Cavaliers were parting ways with general manager David Griffin after three straight trips to the NBA Finals, a move that James clearly was not happy about. Cleveland then talked with former All-Star guard Chauncey Billups on Tuesday about a job in the front office.

To think, summer doesn't even start until Wednesday.

The draft is Thursday.

The league's inaugural after-the-season awards show is Monday.

Free agency and the new collective bargaining agreement start on July 1.

"Wow," Phoenix guard Devin Booker said on Twitter. It wasn't clear what Booker was exactly referring to, though he probably said it a

few times Tuesday. Wow, indeed.

### AP source: Cavs owner, Billups meet about front-office job

CLEVELAND (AP)— Chauncey Billups was clutch as a player, earning the nickname "Mr. Big Shot."

He could soon have a new title.

The former All-Star guard met Tuesday with Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert about a position in Cleveland's front office, a person familiar with the encounter told the Associated Press. The meeting took place in Detroit, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the talks.

Gilbert is looking for a general manager—his fifth in 12 years with Cleveland—after parting ways with David Griffin on Monday as the Cavs regrouped after losing to Golden State in the NBA Finals. Griffin's contract expires on June 30, and he and Gilbert decided to mutually part ways after being unable to negotiate an extension and not sharing the same vision for the team's future.

Gilbert and Billups have some history. They've known each other from their days with the Pistons when Billups was one of the team's

leaders and Gilbert's Rock Financial mortgage company was one of the team's major sponsors.

A five-time All-Star, Billups does not have any front-office experience, so it's more likely he could fill an executive role to work alongside a new GM. Billups, who has been working as a TV analyst for ESPN, is also close with Cavs coach Tyronn Lue.

Along with Griffin, Trent Redden, the team's senior vice president of basketball operations, is also not returning. It's possible Billups could fill that vacancy.

Billups retired following the 2013-14 season, his 20th in the league. Inside basketball circles, he's well-liked, highly respected and would be a splashy hire for Gilbert, who has taken some criticism for his separation from Griffin, who helped build the Cavs and guided them to three straight Finals.

Billups spent eight seasons with the Pistons. He also played for Denver, Minnesota, Boston, the Los Angeles Clippers, Toronto and New York.

### Molina, Pham homer in 11th to help Cards beat Phillies, 8-1



and Tommy Pham both homered in a seven-run 11th inning to help the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Philadelphia Phillies 8-1 on Tuesday night.

Stephen Piscotty had a tworun double off Casey Fien after Edubray Ramos (0-5) started the inning with two walks. Molina and Pham followed with homers as the Cardinals had their biggest output of the season in an inning.

Fien gave up both homers and then a single to Chad Huffman and double to Carpenter before the pitcher was removed. Philadelphia has now lost 12 of its last 13 games.

Kevin Siegrist (1-1) pitched one inning in relief to earn the win.

Mike Leake started the game for St. Louis and allowed one run and three hits in six innings.

Jeremy Hellickson gave up six hits and a run in seven innings. His only blemish was a solo homer for Jedd Gyorko in the second inning.

Philadelphia scored its lone run of the game on a Maikel Franco RBI single after Leake walked the first two batters in the fourth inning.

#### Rockies 4, Diamondbacks 3

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a two-run triple in the eighth inning, and the surging Rockies rallied past the Diamondbacks in the opening game of their NL West showdown.

Carlos Gonzalez homered and saved a run with a diving catch of David Peralta's line drive in the fifth to help Colorado win its sixth straight. The NL West leaders extended their advantage over third-place Arizona to two games. Secondplace Los Angeles, which began the night trailing the Rockies by a half-game, played late against the New York Mets.

Peralta and Paul Gold-schmidt homered for the Diamondbacks, who had won seven straight.

Arizona and Colorado, perhaps baseball's two biggest surprises this season, both entered on a roll. The Diamondbacks are a major league-best 23-9 since May 15, while the Rockies' 23-11 mark since then ranks third.

### Angels 8, Yankees 3

In New York, Cameron Maybin hit a tiebreaking home run off struggling reliever Tyler Clippard to spark a three-run seventh inning, helping the Angels beat New York to extend the Yankees' losing streak to seven games — their longest in a single season since April 2007.



Aaron Judge hit his major league-leading 24th home run and Gary Sanchez his 12th as New York climbed back from a 3-0 deficit.

But then Cameron drove the second pitch from Clippard (1-4) into the left-field seats, Kole Calhoun doubled to the right-center gap, Albert Pujols flied out to the center-field warning track and Yunel Escobar hit an RBI triple just over the glove of a leaping Brett Gardner at the left-field wall.

Clippard walked off to boos after allowing runs for the third time in four outings.

### Red Sox 8, Royals 3

In Kansas City, Missouri, Chris Sale shut down the Royals while pitching into the ninth inning, and a rag-tag bunch of Red Sox filling in for injured starters pounded their way to a victory that moved them into first place in the AL East.

Sale (9-3) gave up a homer to Mike Moustakas in the second and a two-run shot to Jorge Bonifacio in the ninth before departing two outs shy of his second consecutive complete game. He allowed four hits and fanned 10, pushing his major league-leading strikeout total to 146 this season.

More importantly, he got a win after going the distance in a 1-0 loss to Philadelphia last week.

Xander Bogaerts and Sandy Leon each drove in a pair of runs for Boston, which got plenty of production from a lineup missing Pablo Sandoval, Dustin Pedroia and Mitch Moreland to various injuries.

#### Nationals 12, Marlins 3 In Miami, Bryce Harper start-

ed the scoring with a two-run single that extended his hitting streak to 13 games, and Gio Gonzalez pitched seven innings to help the Nationals beat the Marlins 12-3 on Tuesday night.

Daniel Murphy had two RBIs and hit his 12th homer for the Nationals. Teammate Stephen Drew had three hits and three RBIs, and Ryan Zimmerman drove in three runs with a double and a single.

The NL East leaders went 7 for 14 with runners in scoring position.

Gonzalez (7-1) allowed three runs, struck out eight and won his fourth straight decision. The left-hander, who grew up in nearby Hialeah, improved to 7-3 in 13 starts against his hometown team with an ERA of 2.19.

Marcell Ozuna hit his 19th homer for the Marlins.

#### Rays 6, Reds 5

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Corey Dickerson went deep, Alex Cobb threw seven solid innings and the Rays beat the Reds.

Dickerson had his 29th multihit game of the season with two hits. He drove in Tampa Bay's first run with a third-inning single, then capped their scoring with his 16th home run in the fourth.

Cobb (6-5) gave up two runs and eight hits while striking out six. Alex Colome pitched the ninth for his 20th save.

Joey Votto hit his 20th home and Eugenio Suarez drove in another run off Colome, but the Reds lost for the 10th time in 11 games.

Amir Garrett (3-6) allowed six runs in 3 2/3 innings.

### Giants 6, Braves 3

In Atlanta, Austin Slater hit a three-run homer after the Braves botched a potential double-play grounder, sparking the Giants to a victory over Atlanta that snapped a sevengame losing streak.

Matt Moore (3-7) pitched seven strong innings for his first win in over a month, and the shaky Giants bullpen protected the lead.

Julio Teheran (6-5) was up 2-0 and cruising toward his first home win since opening night at SunTrust Park, only to be let down by his defense in the eighth inning. The Braves were charged with three errors in all, the biggest coming when shortstop Dansby Swanson dropped a throw trying to turn a double play.

On the very next pitch, Slater lined one into the right-field seats for his second homer of the season. The Giants went on to score five runs in the inning, also taking advantage of throwing errors by reliever Ian Krol and first baseman Matt Adams.

Mark Melancon worked the ninth for his 11th save in 15 chances.

### Pirates 7, Brewers 3

In Milwaukee, Chad Kuhl got his first victory since April, Andrew McCutchen homered for the fifth time in seven games and the Pirates beat the Brewers.

Jose Osuna's three-run homer highlighted the Pirates' six-run first inning. McCutchen's two-run single and David Freese's RBI hit accounted for the other runs, all scored before Zach Davies (7-4) recorded a second out.

Kuhl (2-6) went 12 starts

without a win after beating Atlanta 6-4 on April 8. The young right-hander allowed two runs and seven hits over five innings, walked two and matched his career high of six strikeouts.

### Cubs 4, Padres O

In Chicago, Anthony Rizzo hit another leadoff home run to help Mike Montgomery get his first win of the season in the Cubs' victory over the Padres.

Rizzo homered on the second pitch from Jhoulys Chacin (6-6) and was the third leading off in seven games since Rizzo was moved to the top of the order by manager Joe Maddon. In those seven games, he is 6 for 6 with a walk to open the first inning.

It also extended his hitting streak to a career-high 14 games and came on the day Rizzo took a call from the league office about a collision at home plate with Padres catcher Austin Hedges the previous night.

Rookie Ian Happ also homered for the Cubs.

Montgomery (1-3) allowed three hits and two walks in six innings, striking out four.

### Orioles 6, Indians 5

In Baltimore, Manny Machado went 4 for 4, homered twice and drove in four runs to help the Orioles beat Cleveland and end the Indians' sixgame winning streak.

After the Orioles rallied from a 5-2 deficit to pull even, Machado doubled off Bryan Shaw (1-2) in the seventh inning and scored on a double by Adam Jones.

Machado's first four-hit

St. Louis Cardinals' Stephen Piscotty hits a go-ahead two-run double off Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Casey Fien during the 11th inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, June 20, 2017, in Philadelphia

game since last August lifted his batting average 13 points to .227. He hit a solo homer in the first and tied it with a threerun drive in the fifth.

Miguel Castro (1-0) worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the seventh to earn his first big league victory.

Brad Brach pitched the ninth for his 13th save, retiring Yan Gomes on a deep fly ball with runners on the corners and two outs.

#### Rangers 6, Blue Jays 1

In Arlington, Texas, Carlos Gomez homered in a four-run first inning, Nick Martinez allowed two hits while taking a shutout into the seventh and the Rangers beat the Blue Jays.

Adrian Beltre had a solo homer in the eighth for his 2,960th career hit as the Rangers (35-35) got back to .500 while the Blue Jays (34-36) dropped to 0-8 this season when trying to reach the break-even mark for the first time.

Toronto beat two-time defending AL West champion Texas in a Division Series each of the past two seasons, as the AL East winner in 2015 and as a wild-card last year.

Delino DeShields led off for the Rangers with a bunt single and scored on an RBI groundout by Beltre before Gomez's seventh homer and run-scoring hits from Jonathan Lucroy and Mike Napoli.

Martinez (2-3) didn't allow more than one baserunner in any inning, giving up one run and striking out two in 6 1/3 innings for the right-hander's first win since May 19 at Detroit.

### Twins 9, White Sox 7

In Minneapolis, Miguel Sano and Kennys Vargas each hit a long home run to help the Twins bounce back from a demoralizing sweep by beating the White Sox.

Sano hit his 17th homer and Vargas added a three-run shot as the Twins overcame a rough outing from Ervin Santana (9-4), who gave up six runs on 10 hits and struck out six in five innings. Brandon Kintzler pitched the ninth for his 18th save in 21 tries.

Jose Abreu went 4 for 5 with a home run and two doubles, and Avisail Garcia had a homer and two RBIs for the White Sox. Derek Holland (5-7) allowed seven runs and nine hits in 2 2/3 innings for Chicago.

### ON FOOTBALL: Where some teams and players stand

AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER



mid-June, which means for the next month so, NFL teams basically

Yes, even those 24/7, sleepin-the-office, watch-filmaround-the-clock coaches take some sort of a break.

It's also a good time to look at key developments of the offseason, and where some teams stand heading to training camp at the end of July.

"I think they're very aware of a lot of the things we're trying to teach," Vikings coach Mike Zimmer says. "I think they're in a good place right now.

"Sometimes you just get here and run plays, but you're not learning how to play the game. We've progressed to the part now where we're trying to learn how to play games, trying to learn how to play at the end of games, how to play with the clock, without the clock, with the ball or without the ball. Because I think that's going to be important when we come down to starting getting into the real stuff."

The real, real stuff is three months away. Here are some observations after all the offseason machinations.

#### **WHO HAS IT BETTER** THAN US?

A fifth Lombardi Trophy in

NFL teams, you should be shuddering. New England went 14-2 last season, including four games without Tom Brady, but looks even stronger now. Feeling a need to bolster the

receiving group, the Patriots



In this Tuesday, June 6, 2017, file photo, New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady throws a pass during an NFL football team practice in Foxborough, Mass.

their collection, Super Bowl Dwayne Allen. rings with more diamonds than a nearby Tiffany, and a soon-to-be 40-year-old quarterback who looks, acts and plays as if he's 30. Did the Patriots really need much more to make the first half of 2017 special?

Yet look at their roster and, if you are one of the other 31

brought in Brandin Cooks and

Desiring a better pass rush, they acquired Kony Ealy.

After taking a hit at running back (no LeGarrette Blount), Mike Gillislee and Rex Burkhead added depth.

Perhaps best of all, they signed cornerback Stephon Gilmore away from division rival Buffalo. If incumbent Malcolm Butler can't be made happy by management, the Patriots remain covered in the coverage department.

Sure, they lost Blount, Martellus Bennett, Chris Long and Logan Ryan. But the Patriots more than compensated for those defections.

Island's Georjemah Row in the second, 6-2, 6-3. Row advanced to Round 2 after eliminating Fiji's Vienna Kumar Fong, 6-1, 6-1. In the third round, Lee will be battling unranked Japanese Kaede Tada, who pulled off an upset over No. 15 seed Kirijana Petreski of Australia, 7-6 (2), 2-6, 6-2.

Lee's fellow CNMI player, Isabel Heras, was also entered in the singles event and drew a bye in the opening round before bowing to Great Britain's Kiana Mokhtari in the second,

In the doubles, Lee and her partner Maxine Ng of SinWHO HAS IT WORSE?

Matt Forte, one of the few – very few - remaining veterans with any credentials on the Jets, vehemently denies the team intends to tank this season to get a very high draft pick. We can't be sure Jets management has the same approach as Forte and his teammates.

An examination of the massive roster for minicamp, which included a dozen noncontract players trying out, revealed Forte, Muhammad Wilkerson and Sheldon Richardson. Beyond them and a few journeymen, the Jets look like a noncontender in the

gapore are in the quarterfinals following their 6-1, 6-2 triumph over Japan's Riko Ebina and Manami Ukita. The Japanese won their first match against Australia's Chloe Katerdjian and Sasha Nelson, 6-2, 6-4, before losing to Lee and Ng, who will next duel Australia's Chiara Di Tommaso and France's Helena Mohamed.

It will be Lee's third meeting against Mohamed and the CNMI bet is hoping to make it three in a row against the Frenchwoman after beating the latter in the singles finals of the two tournaments in

dercats are second to the last in the rankings with their 1-2-7 slate and will challenge Shirley's 2 in their last game this

Young Ha Hwang Al-Amin

Boot race for Division B, KFAS' Edwin Kim has collected eight so far and is hanging on to a one-goal lead.

ti's Jeremy Guines and they

fell to No. 8 Cade Barrel and

Kimi Kozlowski of Austra-

lia, 2-6, 1-6.

Breathing down his neck five apiece.

son of his nomadic career with one of the worst.

Still, the manner and timing with which the likes of dedicated linebacker David Harris and their only proven receiver, Eric Decker, were released seem almost ruthless. What has been left behind seems worthless.

### 7 CNMI

From Page 28

400m hurdles (June 30) and the 200m qualifying run (July 1).

ACC, let alone the NFL.

In tearing apart virtually

everything, the Jets actually

made some wise moves. Dar-

relle Revis is a shell of the star

cornerback he once was. The

battles in the trenches have

taken a huge toll on center

Nick Mangold. QB Ryan Fitz-

patrick followed the best sea-

In the women's 20 and under 200m race, the Commonwealth has two entries in Sapong and Ichiou and the two runners will also join the qualifier in the 100m sprint. Ichiou will have three competitions as she is also entered in the javelin throw.

In the women's 18-andunder 200m, the CNMI will be represented by Acosta, a late addition to the team after one member pulled out due to a conflict in her schedule. In the 100m run in the same age group, the Commonwealth will pin its hopes on 15-yearold Pangelinan, who had an outstanding performance in last month's McDonald's/PSS All Schools Track and Field Championships. Another All School star-Quitugua-will race in the men's 18-and-under's 100m and 200m runs.

NMA developmental coach Elias Rangamar, who has been conducting the seven athletes'

New Caledonia. Lee had also

casion

training sessions with the help of Basa and Ronald Olopai, said they are not putting so much pressure on the CNMI Team as far as winning medals in Fiji is concerned.

"Our main focus is for them to gain experience from the tough competition in Fiji and gauge the athletes that they may face next year when we compete in the Micronesian Games in Yap. If they make it to the Top 3 and the medals come, that would be great," Rangamar said in an interview with Saipan Tribune.

Basa added that the CNMI athletes are going to Fiji after surviving challenging training conditions. Majority of them prepared for the meet for only a little over two months because of the lack of facility, focusing more on body strengthening and conditioning while working out at the gym, as the track oval at the Oleai Sports Complex has yet to open.

"Fortunately, they were able to do some actual races last month during the All Schools meet," Rangamar said.

### CAROL

From Page 28

last month in Morroco, now has 171.45 combined ranking points—145 in the singles and 105 in the doubles-after her successful run in the two Grade 5 tournaments.

"I think Carol's days in Grade 4 and 5 tournaments are numbered. She's really into a different level now and I will not be surprised to see her competing in Grade 1 to 3 tournaments more," Race said.

"If she can make it to around 180 or better in the world rankings, she may have

a chance for a wild card at the junior competition of the Australian Open," the CNMI coach added. "We are really proud of her and wish her continued success."

Lee is now back in Fiji and competing in the 2017 South Pacific Open Junior Championships. The Commonwealth player won both her opening matches in the singles and doubles events for the Grade 4 tournament being played at the Regional Tennis Centre Nadovu Park in Lautoka.

In the singles contest, the No. 2 seed Lee drew a bye in the first round and downed the Solomon 6-4, 6-1.

moved up to third place in the team standings with its 5-1-4 record and will duel Korean Football Association on Saipan this Sunday for its fiweekend. nal game. Wang made it to the board in the 11th minute, Seo in the 36th, and Yu in the 58th.

Fnu nailed two goals apiece for Matansa, which drew one each from Anamul Haque and Amzad Khan. Hwang handed Matansa its first goal in the 12th minute, while he registered his second in the 55th. Fnu's twin goals, on the other hand, were recorded in the 24th and 27th minute, while Hague and Khan scored in the 29th and 59th, respectively.

Meanwhile, in the Golden

are Kanoa's Ian Maniago, Shirley's 2's Ryu Hoin and Chhetri, and Sun Palace's Yu, who have seven apiece and could still surpass Kim as each player has one game left this season. Also still in contention is Wang, who has six, while Shirley's 1's Jun Liu, Kosuke Sato, and Sedillo, the Thundercats' Don Cabrera, and Shirley's 2's Jack Phan have

#### played against Di Tommaso in TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES both the singles and doubles contests in Noumea and de-**MLB STANDINGS** feated the Aussie in each oc-AMERICAN LEAGUE **East Division** Meanwhile, Robbie Schorr 31 30 36 35 Boston was the third Common-New York Tampa Bay .559 .520 38 39 35 wealth player to see action .500 41/2 Baltimore in the 2017 South Pacific .486 51/2 Toronto Open Junior Championships. He challenged No. 12 Ryan **Central Division** Cleveland Seggerman of the U.S. and .515 1½ .486 3½ Minnesota Kansas City lost, 1-6, 1-6. In the doubles, Schorr teamed up with Tahi-Detroit

Chicago

#### **West Division** Houston 48 Los Angeles 37 .500 12 .500 12 .493 12½ 35 37 Texas

### NATIONAL LEAGUE Washington 43 28 .606 —

Atlanta	32	38	.457		
∕liami	31	38	.449	11	
New York	31	39	.443	111/2	
Philadelphia	22	47	.319	20	
·					

#### **Central Division** 35 34 38 37 41 .521 — .514 ½ .465 4 .464 4 .423 7 33 32 30 Pittsburgh St. Louis Cincinnati

### **West Division**

olorado	4/	26	.644	_
os Angeles	46	26	.639	1/2
rizona	44	27	.620	2
an Diego	28	44	.389	181/2
an Francisco	27	46	.370	20

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### SHIRLEY'S

From Page 28

only 7—the least allowed by any squad in the entire league (including Division A) this season. Jerry Tan and Panapa Peteru added one goal apiece in Shirley's 1's total as they scored in the 25th and 55th minute of their game against No. 3 Shirley's 2 (5-4-1) last weekend. Shirley's 1 was awarded an own goal in the fifth minute of last Sunday's tiff, while Dhiraj Chhetri registered all three goals for Shirley's 2.

Versus the CNMI Women's

National Team last Thursday, three different players hit the board for Shirley's 1. Fradel Sedillo drew first blood with his shot in the 12th minute. while Tan gave the team its second goal in the 45th. Joseph Ichihara closed out for Shirley's 1 with his conversion in the 56th minute.

In other results, Sun Palace and Matansa downed their respective opponents.

Sun Palace faced the CNMI Women's National Team last Saturday and earned a 3-1 victory. Qiwei Wang, Ivan Seo, and Feng Yu delivered the goods for Sun Palace, which

10 slate, got its lone goal from Britanny Wally, who ended the squad's silence in the 47th minute. Behind Sun Palace at fifth place is Matansa, which eased past the Thundercats, 6-0, to gain a 3-3-4 mark. The Thun-

The WNT, which finished the

season at the bottom of the

team standings with its 1-0-

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017 27

### Sidekicks FC U10 vs Matansa FC

### PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



A Sidekick Football Club player, right, kicks the ball while a Matansa FC player defends him during the first half of their friendly game at the Koblerville Elementary School Field last Saturday.



A Sidekick Football Club defender, center, deflects a shot from a Matansa player.



The Matansa FC goalie catches the ball.



A Matansa FC player lets go off a kick.



A parent of a Sidekick Football Club player takes photos of the match.



A Sidekick Football Club player dribbles in front of his defender.



Sidekick Football Club, left, and Matansa players battle for pos-



A Matansa player, center, tries to break away from his defender.

**28** THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017

Molina, Pham homer in 11th to help Cards beat Phillies, 8-1

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Shirley's 1 unbeaten, gets title



### CNMI athletes leave for Fiji

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

The CNMI Team that will participate in the 2017 Oceania Area Championship in Fiji will leave Saipan this Saturday evening in time for next

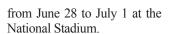
week's competition.

The squad is composed of athletes Zarinae Sapong, Beo Ngirngochor, Traven Quitugua, Riella Ann Billy Ichiou, Annalei Santos, Jamie Pangelinan, and Leani Acosta and coach Preston Basa. They

will be reunited in Suva with Northern Marianas Athletics president Ramon Tebuteb and secretary general Robin Sapong, who will attend the Oceania Athletics Association Congress this weekend. The area championship will run







Santos will be the first CNMI athlete to see action in the tournament as she competes in the women's 18-andunder discus throw against 14 others on June 28. The 17-year-old is also entered in the shot put event. Ngirngochor is up next as he races in the men's open 400m meter qualifying run on Wednesday evening. The 23-year-old Marianas High School graduate will also participate in the

#### See 7 CNMI on Page 26

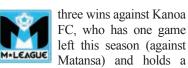
ROSELYN B. MONROYO CNMI athletes perform warmup drills during their training sessions at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield last Wednesday. They will leave for Fiji this Saturday to compete in the 2017 Oceania Area Championship.

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By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

hirley's Football Club 1 finished the spring season of the M-League undefeated en route to winning the Division B championship in the eightteam competition.

Shirley's 1 prevailed in its penultimate game against the CNMI Women's National Team, 3-0, and drew Shirley's 2 in its final match, 3-3, last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field to wrap up the contest with a 9-2-0 win-draw-loss record. The newly crowned division champion is ahead by



6-2-2 card.

Besides topping the team standings, Shirley's 1 also has the most goals so far, making 30 in 11 games and yielding

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 26

### Carol joins elite team

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com

Carol Lee's outstanding performances in the past two Asian Tennis Federation months did not go unnoticed, as the Asian Tennis Federation has invited the CNMI junior player to join its select squad.

Lee, who won four ITF Juniors titles in a span of just nearly two months and soared to the world rankings, will be suiting up for the ATF Touring Team that will compete in two tournaments each in Malaysia and Thailand this coming October, according to Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association official and CNMI

coach Jeff Race.

'Carol was selected on the touring team and it's another great opportunity for her to gain more world ranking points. Carol did an awesome job in the tournaments in Morocco and New Caledonia," Race added.

The 15-year-old is currently ranked No. 259, jumping from No. 287, after sweeping the singles and doubles events in the New Caledonia ITF Junior 2017 and getting the singles crown in the Open BNP Paribas Junior de Nouvelle-Caledonie early this month. Lee, who got her first ITF Juniors crown

### See CAROL on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO Carol Lee will be playing in ITF Juniors tournament in Malaysia and Thailand in October.